

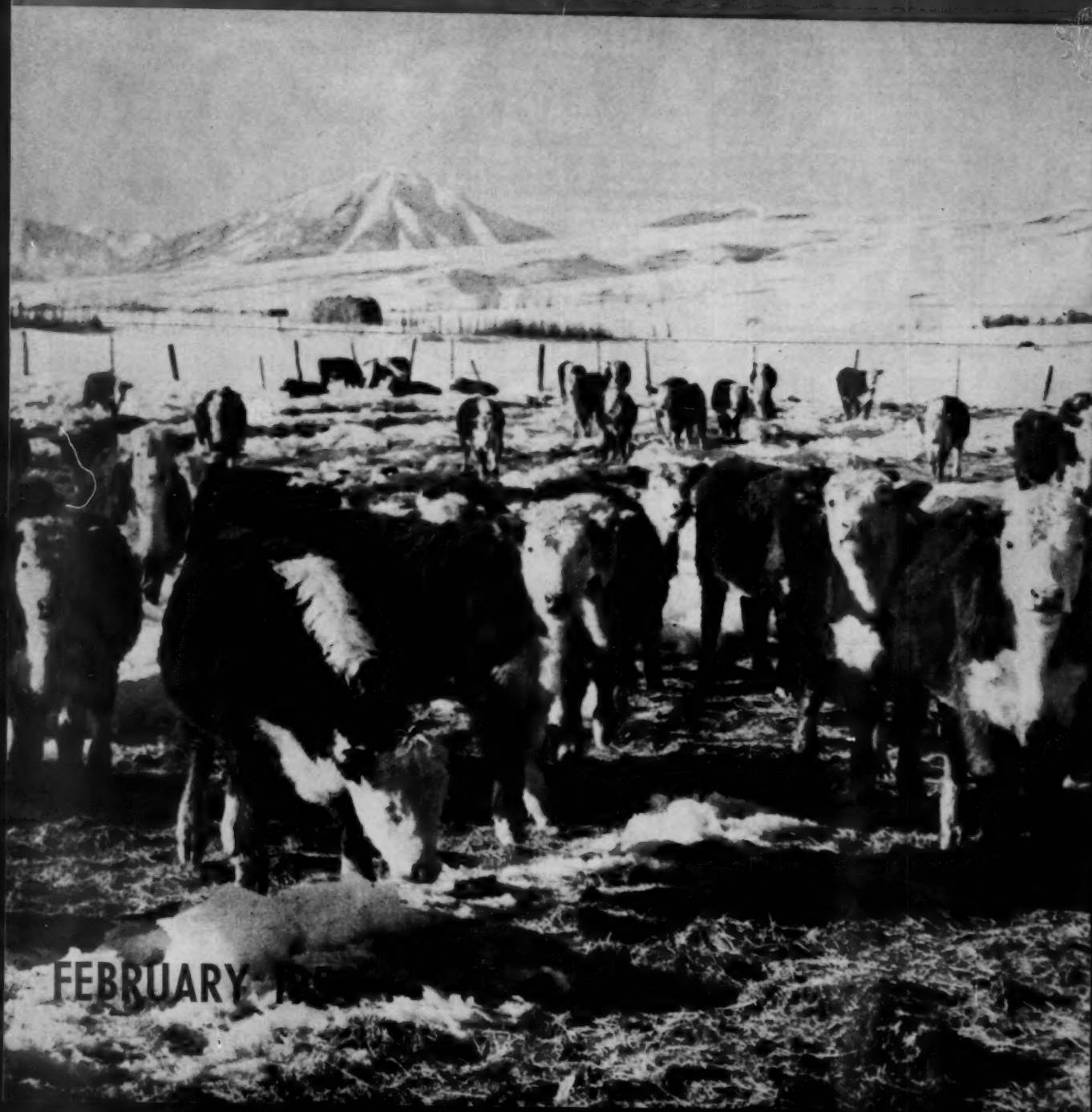
AMERICAN

Recovering Rainfall

GRADING • PRICE ANALYSIS

CATTLE PRODUCER

• THE CATTLEMAN'S BUSINESS MAGAZINE •



FEBRUARY 1964



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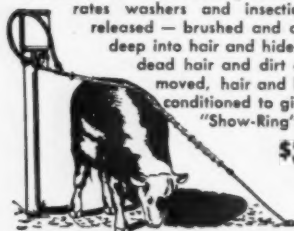
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Letters

TO THE
EDITOR

PASTURES FILLING—We had some heavy ice a few days after we were home from the convention and some severe cold, but as usual in southeastern Kansas it didn't last long. Our Blue-stem contracts are getting pretty well under way and I don't look to see any unfilled pastures this year. Prices will average well with last year. Moisture conditions for this time of year are ideal.—Ralph Perkins, Howard, Kans.

(Continued on Page 25)

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Hiker Testifies On Wilderness Bill

Editor's Note: We thought the statement of Virgil L. Fischer, a "hiker and mountain climber," at the Bend, Ore., hearing on the wilderness proposal, was of more than usual interest. Mr. Fischer is a past president of the Mazamas and is active in such organizations as Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, Oregon Audubon Society, Sierra Club, Trustees for Conservation and National Parks Association. He has visited the wilderness areas in most of the West. Excerpts from his testimony follow:

My first objection (to the wilderness proposal) is that it is too all-inclusive. I have never thought that Indian reservations, wildlife refuges, or national parks should be included.

The Indian reservations are not public lands, and their inclusion, even though on a consent basis, tends to dilute the issue.

The purpose of the federal wildlife refuge system is not the preservation of wilderness. These areas were established for the protection and production of wildlife for the ultimate benefit of man. These are managed lands, whose tools of management include the regulation of water levels, the improvement of springs and waterholes, the impoundment of water, the growing of plant crops, sometimes the eradication of undesirable plant species in favor of better forage and browse. Under intensive management it is often possible to greatly increase wildlife production. The whole concept of the refuge system is one of management and manipulation, and I fail to see how this program would be benefitted by compulsory wilderness preservation.

Regarding the inclusion of the national park system in the wilderness bill, I belong to that school of thought that is very well satisfied, indeed, with the way the national parks are being run now. Under the National Park Act of 1916, as amended, the National Park Service is required to make the parks available for the enjoyment of the American people, yet at the same time preserve them for future generations. As between use and preservation there is of necessity a certain compromise. In my opinion the Park Service has done a remarkable job of meeting this compromise, by making the parks accessible, yet at the same time preserving large areas of back country as wilderness. I have every confidence in its ability to continue to do so, for a more dedicated group of people is non-existent.

I believe the present law covering the national parks is adequate and that no purpose would be served by including the national park system in the wilderness bill other than to hamstring its management. I further believe—and it has been rather well demonstrated—that public opinion is powerful enough to protect the parks in time of emer-

gency from the vagaries of an undependable secretary. It is even good for public opinion so to assert itself on occasion.

This would leave only the wilderness system of the U. S. Forest Service in the wilderness bill. These areas, and only these areas, which are presently under administrative decree, should receive consideration by the Congress for the type of protection under discussion—provided it can be demonstrated that the advantages of such legislation outweigh some loss of flexibility of management.

It is my understanding that one of the reasons for including Indian reservations, wildlife refuges and national parks in this bill was because the Bureau of the Budget felt that otherwise it was discriminatory legislation aimed at a single public agency. I can appreciate this factor, but when the various types of land use are analyzed, only the Forest Service wilderness system can be reconciled with the wilderness bill.

Actually, the outdoor clubs promoting this bill are not very consistent.

MEETING NOTES

SOUTHERN STATES

The theme of talks to three southern state cattle association conventions by G. R. "Jack" Milburn, American National president, was that, since the South is becoming more and more important in cattle growing, it should not fail to heed the warnings of a cattle buildup and to see that a "bust" is not inevitable.

He said that industry and government experts cannot agree on the time or extent of the break because of the variables of potential demand, weather, imports and the cattlemen's own changes of plan, but there are indications the industry is riding toward a possible "bust" even as soon as late 1960.

He spoke to state cattlemen's groups in Alabama, Louisiana and Mississippi early in the month.

He said that associations have historically alerted cattlemen to impending changes in cattle cycles, "but very few have related their own conditions to the national statistics." But he expressed the hope that, with solid facts in front of them, "We are confident the individual cattleman will be more alert this time to shifting conditions."

At the Arizona cattlemen's meeting, Mr. Milburn spoke on the cattle industry's opposition to the wilderness preservation bills. He said that entire counties and states would feel the effects of "locked parks" as they tried to replace tax monies, grazing, lumbering, mining and tourist revenues, "or when they run up against those locked gates in search for more water or other resources to keep them going."

"Not only do we have millions of wilderness acres set aside now, but this proposal is premature to the find-

They passed a resolution approving the Dana report and asking for research recommended by it, and at the same convention passed a resolution asking for immediate passage of the wilderness bill. The two do not go together.

The Dana report is the most profound document in the field of forest recreation ever to appear in the history of this nation. It is fundamental and basic. The research it calls for would seek the answers to a host of problems and questions in forest recreation, including wilderness use. In a nation facing a steady diet of controversy over conflicting uses, such as ours, these answers become imperative. Therefore, the Dana research is the crying need of the hour, not the wilderness bill. In this light, the wilderness bill is like putting the cart before the horse. Let's have the research first, and any needed legislation afterward.

In the meantime, the wilderness is not likely to disappear, because the Forest Service is doing an excellent and thoroughly commendable job of preserving it. Anyone who doesn't think so had better go take another look.

ings of Congress's new recreation-needs study committee, which is to report in 1961," he declared.

In his talks, Mr. Milburn outlined efforts of cattle organizations to get a simple amendment to the Packers and Stockyards Act which would clear away "technicalities" now stopping fund collection plans for beef promotion in many areas. Such an amendment was urged again in a resolution passed at the American National's Convention in Omaha, Nebr.

NATIONAL

American National President Jack Milburn will be heard nationwide this month in a special salute to radio-television agricultural reporters. In recognition of Farm Broadcasting Day, Mr. Milburn and other leaders of major farm groups prepared tape recordings saluting the broadcasters and telling what rural radio service means to ranchers and farmers.

Executive Secretary Radford Hall went to Washington, D. C., when the National's convention ended Jan. 17. Pressing problems there include the wilderness preservation system proposals, market deductions for beef promotion and leather use promotion.

CALIFORNIA

James C. Beagle, secretary of the Kern Branch of the California Cattlemen's Association, has resigned because of the pressure of other business. New secretary is Foster Webb, a member of the Bakersfield Production Credit Association staff. Mr. Beagle, in his 10 years as secretary of the Kern group, worked closely with the American National and was a good booster for the National, with the result that practically every member of the Kern County association is a member of the American National.



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The big profits are already made, says P. S. Stephens in a story in the newsletter of the Farm Credit Banks of Wichita. In philosophizing on cattle prices, he tells about an analyst observing buyers of common stock increasing their holdings a year ago and professionals moving into the market a little later when the uptrend was more apparent. This is followed by public buying which increases the stock prices, "and the rising market would likely continue into early 1959, based not upon prospective increase in industrial income but upon favorable investment experience." He cites another analyst, who advises: "Anticipated early 1959 investment demand, should it develop, could be used to accept profits and put accounts in a position to take advantage of opportunities that promise to develop in the months to come."

This is sound economics, says Mr. Stephens, who applies it to cattle prices in this fashion: "Cattlemen began increasing their herds three years ago when it appeared a price bottom was close at hand. Many more cattlemen expanded their operations in 1957 and 1958 when the uptrend was clearly discernable. Now we are in the public buying stage of the cattle cycle. But current prices have most likely already discounted future profits. Therefore, this is a period to accept profits and put financial statements in a position to take advantage of later opportunities."

Mr. Stephens continues: "It is difficult in a personal business, particularly a slow biological one, to operate with the financial agility of a stock market investor. Yet, success in livestock calls for attention to sound financial practices. We have seen cattlemen this past year who pyramided, who put all their profits into expansion or further stretched their credit."

It's been profitable to date, says Mr. Stephens, "but, in making sound loans currently, it is only realistic to recognize the facts of life in current cattle prices and the temporary and treacherous foundation supporting them. Yes, cattle prices may continue to rise for another year or two, but the big profits in this upturn have already been made. A member who cannot see that this is a favorable period to accept profits and put his account in shape to absorb losses that will surely come eventually is not a desirable credit risk. We don't want to be a party to his liquidation."

A favorable factor in the outlook for 1959 is that prices of cattle were higher at year end than a year before and hogs were higher almost up to year end, since this apparently reflects some increase in consumer demand for meat, says USDA. Nevertheless, the sizeable increase in the supply of hogs will result in considerably lower hog prices in 1959—an increase during the spring and decline during the fall, as is normal for those seasons. Although always well below 1958, no extreme reduction in hog prices seems in view for 1959.

Prices of fed cattle may decline slowly this winter and are likely to be lower than last. They may not regain 1958 levels until summer. Prices of lambs also may feel the effect of heavier wintertime meat supplies and may average somewhat less than last winter.

Rising production will bring lower cattle prices, but a "boom-and-bust" situation can be avoided, says Harold F. Breimyer, head of USDA's livestock outlook work. He said that while cattle numbers are on the increase, expansion has not been too fast, and there is reason to think that we can avoid a boom and bust. Rising production will bring lower prices, but, unlike hogs, cattle do not appear to be in danger of a sharp price decline for another year or two. There are some danger signals flying, though, he said: "For instance, cow slaughter has been very low."

Handwriting on the Wall

THE WIDESPREAD TALK today about big government spending may have been sparked by President Eisenhower's call for economies to "protect the integrity of the dollar," or maybe people realize that inflation can go beyond seeming prosperity into chaos.

At any rate, in spite of the indifferent attitude of many vote-conscious congressmen, the press and others are giving this subject the attention it deserves. It should have had attention years ago.

Ten years ago the annual interest on our national debt was \$5.22 billion. Now it is 8 billion. Ten years ago the dollar was worth 57.8 cents, compared with its 1939 value. Now it has shrunk to 48 cents. This is the result of Congress spending more than it took in. The national debt is \$281 billion.

What did we get for all this spending and going into debt? Admittedly a great number of doles of one kind or another.

But there is also involved the question of self-reliance. Every additional service government performs for the people digs into the freedom of the people.

Ted Scripps of Scripps-Howard Newspapers says:

"Our economy was built and must thrive on self-sufficiency. Anything less than that will certainly detract from the prosperous economy of this country. Yet today even the most conservative economists imply that being self-sufficient is a sacrifice.

"Not until we outgrow this dangerous ideology will we again be able . . . to convince the rest of the world that democracy and free enterprise are the best roads to follow."

I'm Better Off Today

TO THE PERSON who says that, one might reply, "Yes." But another question is, where is the money actually coming from? Can we forever continue to "prosper" on printing-press money—which is exactly what deficit spending creates?

And deficit spending means inflation, and inflation is the "cruellest kind of economic pestilence, reducing job opportunities, pricing us out of world markets, shrinking the value of savings, and penalizing thrift," says President Eisenhower. He adds that it strikes hardest at those who can least protect themselves: The pensioner, the widow, the man of thrift, the white-collar worker, the minister and teacher.

Some serious-minded people say that we're not really at peace; we are in an emergency and probably will be in one from here on out; we cannot go along normally.

And this may be so. But although spending for defense has caused some of the inflation that we have, it has not caused it all, by any means. In the year's budget there are \$30 billion for non-defense items. That is three times the total federal budget, including defense, in any year preceding the last war.

If we must consider ourselves as living in an emergency, then surely we have even a greater reason for keeping our economic house in the best possible order, especially where we can reduce spending in non-defense fields. But the fact is, we have simply got used to big spending.

Neck-Deep in Waste

SAYS PASQUALE MARRANZINO in the Rocky Mountain News (Denver):

"We stand as a nation hip-deep in prosperity and neck-deep in waste. We think in terms of astronomical billions . . . It has become so unreasonable that we cannot conceive of the magnitude of our waste."

Two years ago the then secretary of the treasury, George M. Humphrey, said the budget was too big, that it could be cut, and, if government's tax-and-spend pace wasn't reversed, eventually we would have a "depression that will curl your hair."

Then a year later Sputnik came around, and, instead of talking about economy, Congress geared itself even to outspending the President.

This year, with the President making some attempts to hold the line, Congress is still in the spending mood—and not only for defense!

The House has already passed a bill to provide more millions in loans for veterans housing and the Senate has voted aid for airports and housing. In the meantime, the real estate people say home construction is booming.

And indications are that Congress will not pay much attention to President Eisenhower's suggestion to start straightening out the unworkable, surplus-creating and expensive farm price-support program.

How Much To Spend?

GOVERNOR ABRAHAM A. RIBICOFF of Connecticut has a plan:

He proposed a budget tailored to the revenues to be expected from taxes. To offset future increases in government costs, he suggested abolishment of 56 departments, bureaus, agencies and organizations.

A rare and sound suggestion!

Also going a step further than simple objection to too much government spending, the American National at Omaha proposed to implement its complaint with action. It called for a vote by the people on whether they wanted to continue or repeal the income tax amendment.

The Evening World-Herald (Omaha) said:

"This was not a hasty action. The cattlemen have been mulling it over for some time. But it was, to say the least, extreme. And it was something to which, we think, the political powers that be had better pay some attention.

"What the cattlemen said, in effect, was that Uncle Sam is taking our money . . . throwing it away . . . using it to impose welfare schemes we don't want. And since he has refused to heed our advice to slow down, we may have to shut off his funds.

"We don't expect that the government spenders will start shaking in their boots because of a resolution passed by a comparatively few cattlemen. But there are other signs, as well, that people are beginning to think seriously about their wasteful and too-big government. The handwriting on the wall looks mighty like an admonition to put on the brakes—or else."

WAYS TO DEVELOP WATER

	QUICKLY AVAILABLE	LOW COST	DEPENDABLE
Dams	NO	NO	YES
Desalting Ocean Water	NO	NO	?
Rain Making	YES	YES	?
RECOVERING RAINFALL	<u>YES</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>YES</u>



Drawing of spruce-fir forest with strips and blocks cut away. Rain, snow reach ground in cutover areas.



In ponderosa pine areas thinning commercial and removing non-commercial stands recommended.



Burning log in dense sapling stand, without igniting trees. Objective: to do away with the tinder which causes uncontrollable wildfires.

Recovering Rainfall

("Recovering Rainfall" is a slide-sound presentation of the Arizona watershed program sponsored by the Arizona Water Resources Committee and State Land Department. Here we present selected pictures and paragraphs from the program. For the set of 90 slides and recording, write to American National, 801 E. 17th, Denver 18, Colo.—Ed.)

The declining supply of water is a national problem and nowhere more acute than in the arid and semi-arid West and Southwest.

In Arizona we have worked out a plan to produce more water—a plan that will accomplish other worthwhile benefits like reducing wildfires, making better timber, providing better grazing.

Water comes to us in the form of rain or snow. Most of this falls in mountains. Too much of it is wasted. How? By being intercepted or used up at or near the place it falls by surplus trees and shrubs.

Our objective is to recover as much of this wasted water as possible. That's why we call our plan RECOVERING RAINFALL.

Now let's look at four suggested ways to develop water.

One way, as the chart shows, is to dam up the flow of a river (takes lots of money and a long time). Another is to de-salt sea water (cost is still excessive). A third method is by "rain-making" (still experimental). The fourth method is RECOVERING RAINFALL (it's ready; cost is comparatively low; proved dependable in many experiments).

Some of the nation's greatest water experts came to Arizona in 1956 to study the problem. Their advice, based on years of experience: "It can be done. Our watersheds can produce more water, more timber, more grass—rainfall can be recovered."

Now, to gain a quick understanding of the problem and the solution, take a look at our Mountain Peak Chart. It divides the watershed into zones—five elevation or vegetation zones. The higher the elevation the more rain and snow—and more potential water.

We see the amount of water to be saved noted in each zone in terms of "acre-feet" (one acre-foot is 325,000 gallons).

Watershed experts tell us our program can save as much as 285,000 acre-feet of water in a year of average rainfall. And that from just one watershed!

In the spruce-fir-aspen zone, our basic recommendation is: Strip and block cutting (see picture). When snow falls on a typical stand of spruce and fir, some of it catches in the branches—and evaporates. Some of the moisture that reaches the ground is used by the trees themselves. Only a portion escapes to flow into the streams for man's use.

Experts agree water can be saved by cutting some of these trees and making more room for grass. That's because spruce and fir are evergreen trees, and evergreens intercept or use water the year around; grasses intercept less water and use water only in summer.

There is an extra dividend, too. When spruce and fir are removed, nature provides a temporary replacement—the beautiful aspen. It grows leaves in spring, uses water mostly in summer, then loses its leaves in winter—and 90 per cent of the water that runs into our dams is produced during the winter when aspen and grass don't intercept or use water.

In the ponderosa pine area, we recommend thinning of commercial and removal of non-commercial stands.

Going back in history, we know that from the dawn of time fires produced by lightning crept through these forests. These fires kept the forest clean, and they helped produce the good timber we are cutting today.

In the old days open stands were 'most everywhere; now it's different. As man learned to control fires, too many small trees began invading the old open stands.

Surprisingly enough, one of the most logical and least



Trees keep snow off the ground.

expensive methods of controlling wildfires is the use of fire itself.

To prevent wildfires, forest are deliberately burned. This is what is known as "prescribed" or "controlled" burning.

The result is a fire which moves about one foot every three minutes. The fire is always under control.

The objective, of course, is to do away with the tinder, which causes uncontrollable wildfires.

In the juniper-piñon zone our recommendation is: Take out as many of the useless trees as is safe and practical—by prescribed burning, cable-pulling, bulldozing and hand-chopping.

Junipers and piñons are invading grasslands (see picture), robbing the soils of water, eliminating grass and other feed for livestock and game. Without grass the soil is exposed to erosion.

Prescribed burning, where possible, is the cheapest way to remove juniper and piñon. It is practical in thick dense stands. Where stands are not dense enough, trees are uprooted and pushed against the stand to be burned. A fire is started in the uprooted trees and carries through the area marked for burning.

Where there is enough grass to help carry the fire, small junipers can be killed. Grass comes back fast. Where the trees are too far apart, individual trees can be burned by applying the flame to the base of the tree. Cables stretched between two tractors are sometimes used to uproot the trees. Much juniper has been removed by big bulldozers; much by hand.

In the chaparral or dense brush area our recommendation is: Intensive research in chemical control.

Many methods have been suggested to kill the chaparral. More research is needed to determine which of these is best. Chemicals, sprayed from the air, look like a good bet. Chemical treatments are most likely to produce more water and more grass where applied to the most dense stands of large shrubs growing on deep soils.

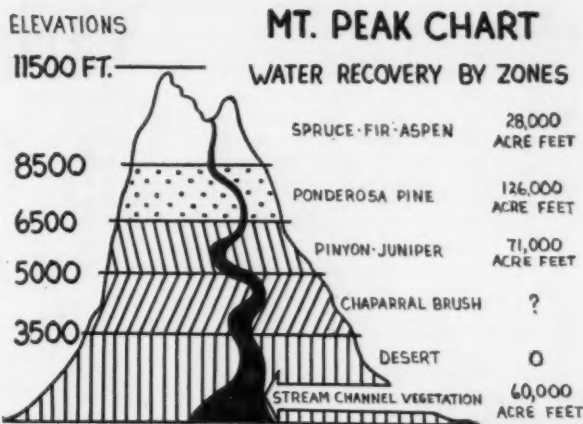
As to the fifth and last area, the desert, we make no recommendation, because it doesn't have enough potential runoff to justify the control of vegetation.

Stretching like a thread through all the vegetation types, from the spruce and fir right down through the chaparral brush, we find stream channels that carry the water to the dams.

There are many water experts who believe the water-consuming trees along these streambeds should be thinned or removed to increase water production. We would like to see this tried in a non-recreational area.

Recovering rainfall is a program that will pay for itself—in terms of water worth approximately \$2.5 million a year from just one watershed; in terms of reduced losses from wildfires; in terms of increased state and federal revenues from improved timber and grazing; in terms of safer, more beautiful recreational areas.

Remember, this is not a program to denude our forests. Rather, it will enhance the beauty of the forests and make them more productive. All practices will be carefully tailored to fit problems in the area to be treated. Thanks to the skill of the trained personnel of the Forest Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and other land management agencies, these recommendations can be carried out in such a way as to preserve the scenic beauty while adding to the productivity of our watersheds.



Ponderosa stand that has been thinned. Trees left will produce several crops to harvest. Thinning produces more water and grass.



Junipers and piñons are invading grasslands. Burning, where possible, is cheapest way to remove.



How things looked three years after a controlled burn—a wonderful stand of grass and browse.

Editor's Note: "Variability in Cattle Prices" has been prepared for the fact-finding committee of the American National Cattlemen's Association by Harold F. Breimyer, United States Department of Agriculture. The report was independently prepared by the author, and does not necessarily reflect the official position of the Department of Agriculture. The material was the basis for parts of the speech made by Dr. Herrell DeGraff, director of the fact-finding committee, at the Omaha convention of the American National. Mr. Breimyer's report will be published in three parts. Part one follows.

THE GREATEST HAZARD of the cattle industry of the United States is not drouth, nor disease, nor other natural disaster. It is price. Uncertainty as to future prices, and danger of a price collapse, do more to handicap the continued healthy growth of the industry than all other forces put together.

Dollars invested in cattle offer an unpredictable return. This is true whether the dollars are put into a cow from which progeny will be sold years in the future, or into a load of heavy steers that will be marketed after 30 days of feedlot warm-up. In either case, prices could advance and yield a return that, while welcome, had not been counted on; or they could decline and burden the investor with a cost which, also unanticipated, would nullify all his skill in management or feeding.

For many years both cattlemen and students of the cattle industry have sought an understanding of variability in cattle prices. They have searched for causes, and even more diligently for a way to foretell the future trend of prices. When price changes are foreseen, steps can be taken to meet the changed conditions. History yields some keys to explain the path that cattle prices take. The purpose of this report is to review such information.

Part of the influences that shape cattle prices arise from outside the industry. When our nation goes through upheavals as from peace to war, or from business prosperity to depression, there is a severe impact on the cattle industry that can hardly be avoided. These situations are beyond the realm of the cattle business itself.

But part of the troubles of the cattle business have an internal origin. They arise from shifting trends within the industry. Most of all, they are caused by alternating underexpansion and overexpansion—the familiar pattern known as "cycles" in cattle production.

Since about 1880 cattle production in the United States has moved up and down in regular pattern. The inventory number of cattle on farms and ranches has increased and decreased in rather smooth cycles, each of which has been of several years' duration (Figure 1.) In January 1958, the sixth such cycle was completed.

Cycles have appeared also in the number of cattle slaughtered each year,

Variability in Cattle Prices

and in the price farmers receive for cattle. Slaughter and price cycles, however, are less regular than inventory cycles.

Inventory, slaughter, and price cycles are of course interrelated. Their linkage may be seen in the way a standard cycle unfolds. A cyclical upswing in the number of cattle on farms and ranches begins when cattle that normally would be marketed are held back either to be added to breeding herds or to be grown out to longer age and heavier weight. Slaughter is reduced. Prices rise, due both to the smaller supply of slaughter cattle and to the strengthened demand for breeders and stockers. Each gain in prices gives a new impetus to the retaining of cattle and expanding of herds. The process builds up for a considerable time. It stops only when production becomes so large that increased marketings and slaughter are unavoidable. As slaughter then rises, prices decline. If the backlog of slaughter animals is very large, or if cattlemen panic in their eagerness to sell, the price break can be severe. Under the discouragement of lower prices herds are reduced, and liquidation may continue for several years.

Cycles in cattle production and prices have their psychological counterpart. Every rise in price brings higher profit and, correspondingly, a glow in the heart of every cattleman. When prices decline the result is opposite. The value of investment in cattle is cut back overnight. Many cattlemen find themselves in a financial squeeze, and some are wiped out. Even for those who remain there is disillusionment and perhaps despair. An older generation of cattlemen who have been through repeated ups and downs tend to develop an attitude of stoicism toward such troubles, but younger producers, especially those with big mortgages, are less philosophical.

To be sure, while all cycles show similarity according to the pattern just described, no two cycles are ever exactly alike. No cycle adheres rigidly to a normal form. To know their normal structure is helpful in understanding cycles, but it is also necessary to look at each cycle by itself—to be aware of its distinctive features as well as its standard ones.

THE CYCLE'S "TRIGGER"—What, it may be asked, sets off a cycle in the first place? And why is it a cycle? Why should economic changes—or some of them—in cattle take on a cyclic character, instead of being erratic and patternless as in so many other businesses?

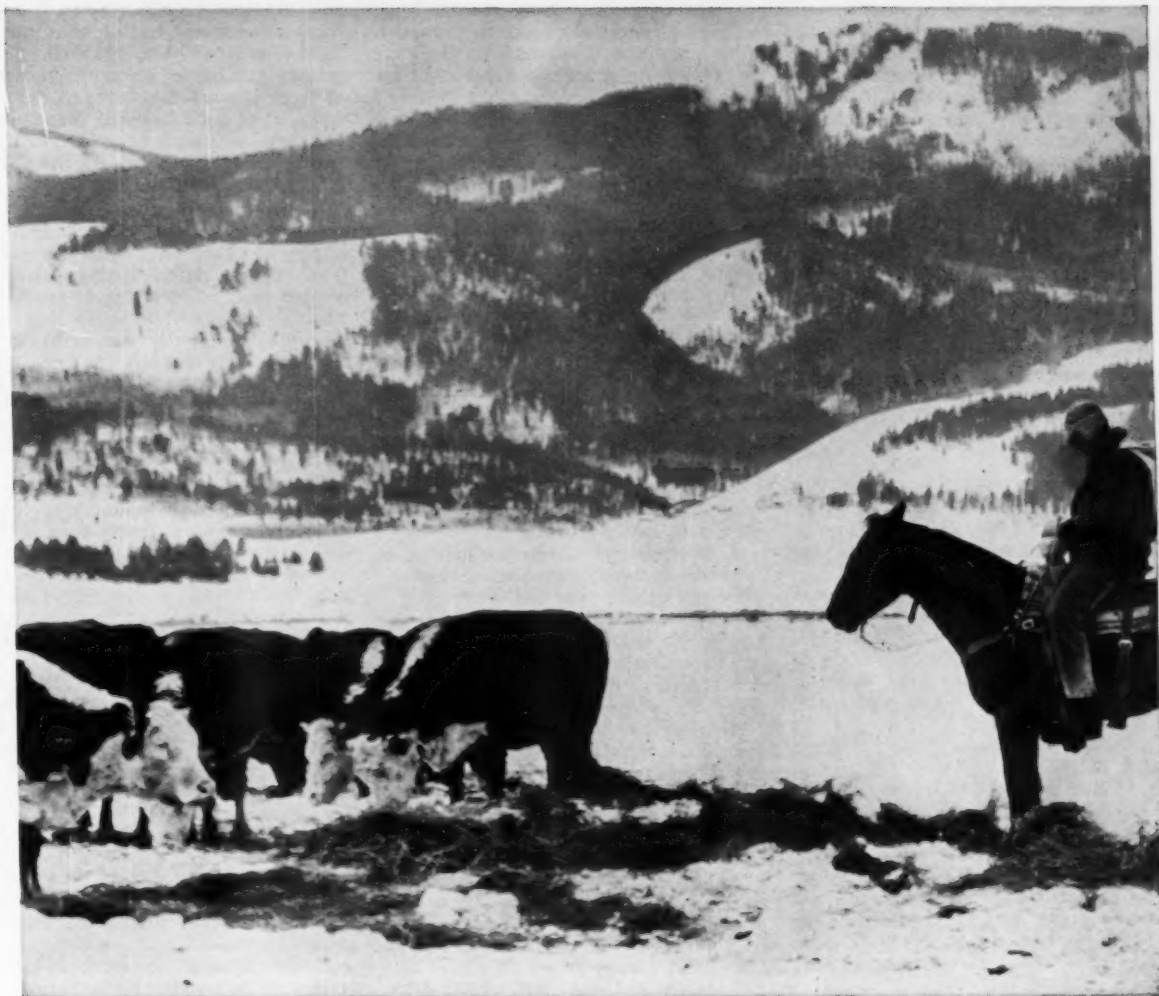
A cattle cycle may be set in motion by any number of triggers. There are two of special importance. The first is a fluctuating or varying demand for beef. Any major increase or decrease in demand will result in a lift or a reduction in price of cattle that may start the chain reaction of a cattle cycle. Most notable instance was the cyclical expansion that began in 1949. The extremely strong demand for beef after the war, a demand that caught cattlemen partly by surprise, built up confidence to a point that caused fast expansion starting in 1949 and continuing for some time thereafter.

More often, however, the great impetus to a cattle cycle comes from a change in the supply of feed, including range feed. Whenever the national cattle herd has been built up to a high point, it becomes very susceptible to any unfavorable condition of range forage or other feed supplies. The low prices beginning in 1953 did not quite halt the uptrend in cattle numbers, but the widespread drouth of 1955 and 1956 did. Severe drouth, as in those years, will almost always force a contraction in cattle production in the areas affected. Unless other areas can absorb the excess of cattle from drouth-stricken regions the national cattle herd has to be cut back. In the opposite direction, an abundance of feed at a time when cattle numbers are not excessive encourages expansion. The almost miraculous recovery of ranges in 1957 and 1958, and the huge feed crops and accumulations of feed in those years, were highly important to the rebound in cattle numbers that appeared in 1958.

While influences such as change in demand or in feed conditions may initiate a cycle, they do not account for the patterned nature of the response. They explain only the beginnings of the cycle. To understand why a cycle follows its standardized pattern, one must look not to economics but to biology. Adjustments in cattle production, whatever their cause, are converted into cyclical pattern by the natural biology of the cattle species.

The life span of cattle is long. Cattle reproduce and grow slowly. When a producer makes a decision with respect to his herd, a long time elapses before the results of that decision affect the market. This is especially true when the decision is to expand. If a beef heifer is kept for breeding instead of being sent to slaughter, her calf from that gestation does not reach the market until two or three years later. This is indeed a long delay in economic response.

To say that cycles in cattle are partly the fault of the cattle industry itself,



Bring 'em through the winter strong with range cubes containing Aureomycin

Cows, held-over calves and replacement heifers all need a *fortified* supplement to thrive on range and bring in extra income.

That's why more and more cattlemen are using range cubes!

Now... with the addition of AUREOMYCIN® to range cubes, you can provide your cattle with greater protection against stress and disease.

AUREOMYCIN in range cubes fights "invisible" diseases—fights the secondary invaders that usually follow respiratory infections and infestation by internal parasites. Cattle use

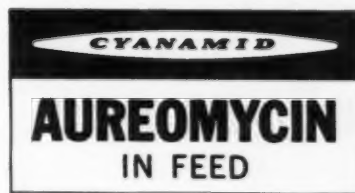
their feed to build health and vigor... put on low-cost weight gains.

Range cubes containing AUREOMYCIN give you all these advantages:

- Your cows stay healthier, calve more easily.
- You increase chances for a bigger calf crop.
- Your held-over calves put on more pounds per feed dollar invested.
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Talk to your feed manufacturer or feed dealer. Ask him for range cubes that provide the recommended amount of 70 milligrams of AUREOMYCIN Chlortetracycline per head per day. American Cyanamid Company, Agricultural Division, New York 20, N. Y.

•AUREOMYCIN is American Cyanamid Company's trademark for chlortetracycline.



with the slow-moving biology of the cattle species as the chief culprit, is not to suggest that cattle producers are indifferent to the state of affairs. Cattlemen are well informed, and among the most alert of all agricultural groups. They have made a serious effort to smooth out the economic trends in their industry. It is the biological nature of cattle that makes solution difficult.

Moreover, it would be impossible, in a free market economy, to avoid all variability in cattle production and prices. Nor would it be desirable to do so. Changes in price are the mechanism that governs the operation of a freely competitive industry. The goal is not to eliminate movements in the price of cattle, but to make them smoother, less drastic, and above all less firmly cyclical.

FOUR KINDS OF FLUCTUATIONS

—To smooth the variations in cattle prices, two principal methods may be used. The first relates to biology, the second is economic.

The biological method is to shorten the time required to produce a beef animal for slaughter. Since that time-span contributes to the instability of the cattle business, anything that can be done to shorten it offers a potential of increased stability.

Although no means has yet been found to abbreviate nature's gestation period, the raising and feeding of cattle has been hurried along a great deal. A generation ago, beef steers were commonly grown out to three or four years of age before being sent to slaughter. Now they are marketed at much younger age. This speeding of production has contributed to the short length of the last three cycles, as will be noted below.

More promising, however, is the second method—to improve the general knowledge among cattle producers of the economic behavior of the cattle industry, to be able to predict accurately what trends to expect at any given time, to disseminate this knowledge more widely and effectively, and to

prepare producers in advance to meet changing conditions when they appear. This analysis is prepared with the hope of advancing economic knowledge for this purpose.

It would be a mistake to look at all movements in cattle prices and production in terms of cycles. Important as cycles are, and hard as their grip is on the industry, they are not the only economic fluctuation in the cattle business. There are in fact four kinds of movements, as follows:

1. Long-run secular trends. These refer to all longer trends that are not cyclical in nature. Some may last for many years, others may be shorter-lived.

2. Longer cycles. These are the well-known cycles, just described, of nine to 16 years' duration, that for so long have marked the cattle industry.

3. Shorter cycles. These are cycles of one to two years. They are found chiefly in cattle feeding.

4. Seasonality. Cattle production is sensitive to the influence of the seasons, although less so now than formerly.

All of these variations are in operation at the same time, and at all times. Moreover they may move together or as opposites. Each is independent of the others. Thus, considering how intertwined they are, and how complex the cattle business is in other ways, the difficulty of unraveling trends in the cattle industry is hardly surprising.

The cattle business is complex in that it is made up of two distinctly different kinds of cattle, dairy and beef; and also in that it allows an extremely wide range of decisions at all times. A bovine is marketable at all ages. A calf may be slaughtered for veal when only a few weeks old, or raised as a beef calf and slaughtered when still in calf flesh, or raised to maturity on grass. It may be put into the feedlot after grazing and fed for either a short or long period before slaughter, or, as still another choice, may be kept as breeding stock and not sold for slaughter until it reaches an age as high as 15 years or more. Economic factors enter most

strongly into decisions as to which of these alternatives to follow at any one time or with any one head or string of cattle. Also, decisions can be changed, as there is much flexibility in the management of a cattle herd. Management decisions in cattle compare with the most difficult and complex, not only in all of agriculture, but anywhere.

LONGER TRENDS—The cattle industry has been expanding for a long time. The 29 million cattle and calves of 1867 multiplied to the 97 million of 1958. From about 1880 to the late 1920's the rate of growth was rather slow. Since then the growth has been much faster—in fact, about three times as fast in terms of average annual increase (See Figure 1). A rapid expansion in demand for beef and a rising capacity for cattle production combined to bring about the sharp uptrend of the last 30 years. Declines in numbers of horses and mules which freed pasture and feed for the use of other livestock helped to make larger cattle production possible. The many improvements in cattle breeding, nutrition and management also have been major factors in the uptrend.

During the last three or four decades almost all the increase in cattle numbers for the country as a whole has been in beef cattle. The number of milk cattle (including young dairy stock) increased gradually from 1920 to 1945 but decreased after that date (Figure 2). On January 1, 1958, the dairy herd inventory was only 3½ million greater than in 1920—a gain of only 11 per cent.

The number of beef cattle (defined as all cattle other than those kept for milk) increased by 20 million, or 50 per cent, during the same 38 years. However, the number of beef cows, the breeding herd, almost doubled—up 95 per cent. Such changes—a relative decrease in dairy animals and a doubling of the beef breeding herd—reflect a near revolution in recent decades in the total national cattle industry.

January inventory numbers of beef cattle other than cows have increased

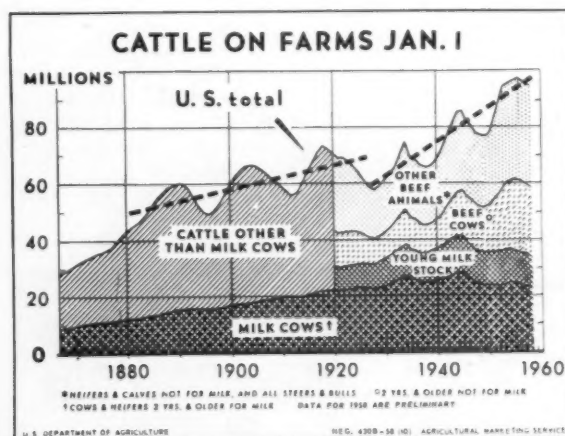


Figure 1

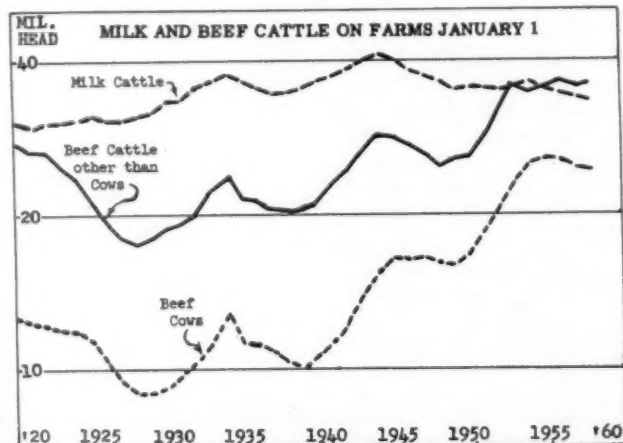


Figure 2

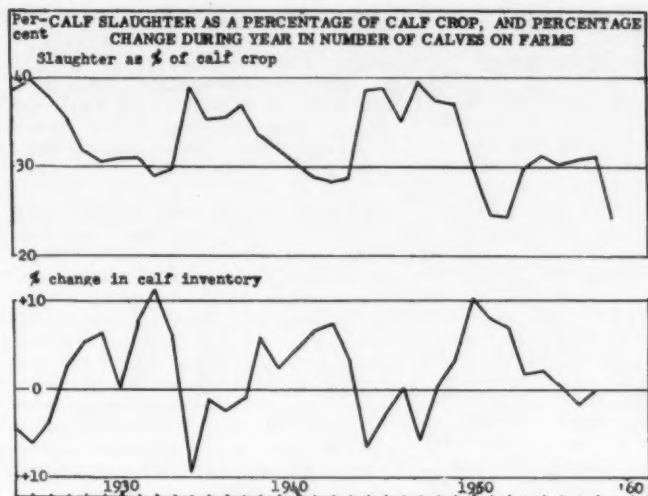


Figure 3

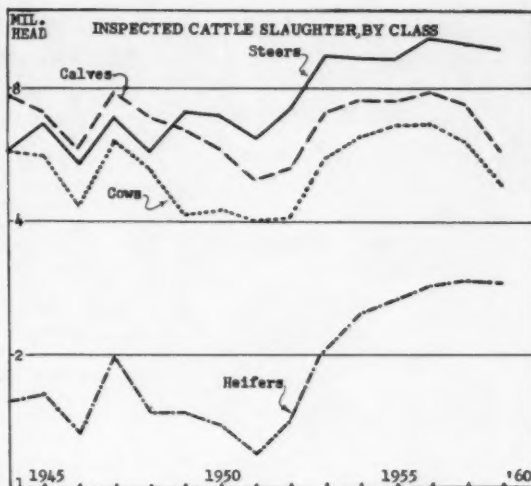


Figure 4

more slowly. In 1920, the total of such animals included many steers that were held to an age of three or four years. As this practice was abandoned the inventory of young beef stock became smaller relative to the beef cow herd. Another reason for slower growth of the inventory of young beef cattle is the declining number of dual-purpose steers and heifers shifted into it from the milk herd. Years ago many such animals were transferred into the beef herd each year. Now the milk cow herd is of more specialized dairy breeding and fewer of the dairy calves are suitable for raising as beef animals.

Data in Figure 2 (also Figure 4) are plotted on a "semi-logarithmic" scale. This kind of chart has the advantage that equal steepness of slope means equal rate of change. Rates of change since 1920 for dairy cattle, beef cows, and other beef cattle can be seen readily in the figure. The comparative increase in the beef breeding herd—beef cows—is especially notable.

While the practice of holding steers to older age has almost disappeared, there has been a declining trend at the other end of the age scale also—in the slaughter of calves. Over many years a decreasing percentage of the calf crop has been slaughtered as calves (Figure 3). The reduction reflects in part the shift from milk to beef cows, since a smaller percentage of beef calves than of dairy calves goes to slaughter as calves. However, during the last few years more and more beef calves have been retained for later slaughter as steers or heifers. Fewer have been slaughtered as calves.

Thus the make-up of young cattle slaughter has been telescoped. It has been narrowed at both ends, as neither calves nor old steers are as important in the total as before. Steers and heifers of one and a half to two and a half years of age have become predominant.

Even within this narrower age range there has been a further narrowing of the kind of cattle produced and marketed. Those finished out at the Good and Choice grades have increasingly overshadowed both the highly finished Prime grade and the lower, underfinished grades. Still further, within these grades the weight preference has narrowed, as overweight carcasses especially have encountered objection. Growing importance of large-scale super-market retailers in meat distribution has accounted for much of this trend. Such retailers ask for a standardized, uniform, graded beef product, and their demand reflects all the way back to ranchers and feeders, influencing the kind of cattle produced.

Expansion of the volume of cattle feeding has accommodated the growing production of Good and Choice steer and heifer beef. The story of the ascendancy of cattle feeding has been told often. Highlighting it are these statistics: in the late 1920's a little less than 30 per cent of all beef in the national market was fed beef; in 1958 the proportion of fed beef was up to approximately 50 per cent of the total. Demand for fed beef has encouraged the increase in cattle feeding. Also, an abundance of feed at relatively low prices has given feeding an added thrust.

Steers have long been favored for feedlot finishing. During recent years, however, the feeding of heifers has become much more popular. Heifer slaughter has increased at an unprecedented rate during the 1950's, reflecting the increase of beef cows in total cattle herd and a decrease in calf slaughter (Figure 4). In fact, expanded feeding of heifers for slaughter as fed beef has been one of the outstanding long-range developments in the cattle industry in the current decade.

(To be continued)

Tranquilized Cattle Swim Easily to Safety

Called to help rescue a 96-head herd of cattle caught on high ground surrounded by the flooding of the Rio Grande, Veterinarian J. M. Baker, Edinburg, Texas, took along an injector and a supply of Diquel, a tranquilizer. He injected 91 of the animals; five cattle were so wild they could not be restrained for the shot, he said. With the 91 animals calm and under control, cowboys in boats floated them a mile to safety. Each animal was handled individually, with one cowboy in front to hold the head out of water, and another in the rear to tail up the cow. Of the tranquilized cattle, three went under water. Of the five non-tranquilized animals, one drowned. After it was all over, the injected animals ate better.

What's the Percentage In Trading Stamps

Trading stamps that you get with your food purchases pay off. According to USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service, "average food prices in stamp-giving stores increased 0.6 per cent more than those in non-stamp stores . . . The consumer who redeems his stamps received in return merchandise valued at about 2 per cent of each retail dollar spent in filling his stamp book." Of course, there's time and trouble to save and redeem the stamps, says the AMS, and the consumer needs to compare prices, quality and services in stamp and non-stamp stores before making up his mind about stamps.

More Turkeys

If the turkey growers carry out their indicated intentions, about 81.9 million turkeys will be raised in 1959, compared with 77.9 million in 1958, a 5 per cent increase.

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The men that give them the toughest wear (in any Rodeo event) know they can depend on Lee Riders to deliver...

**LONG WEAR!
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Committee Reports At Omaha Meeting

Editor's Note: To round out the report of the annual convention of the American National in Omaha in January, we are printing below excerpts from committee reports (action of some of the committees was routed through the resolutions committee and appeared as a resolution, a summary of which was given in the January Producer):

NATIONAL LIVE STOCK TAX COMMITTEE—Several major legislative jobs still remain to be done. We are working on bills which would permit the averaging of income over a period of years to prevent the penalty which you incur because of the wide fluctuation of your income. The fact is that in a very good year you will get into high brackets which give no consideration to the loss years or low income years which you may have had before or surely will have again.

Also we have been supporting the Jenkins-Keogh bill which would permit individual owners of ranches and partnerships to adopt a pension plan and to defer in effect a portion of the income as a retirement payment at a later time. Corporations now can set up a pension plan and can set aside a portion of their income tax free to be drawn down at a later time by their employees as their retirement benefits. Individuals and partnerships can't do that now. We feel that this is a discrimination which should be corrected.

We have also been working with the Sadlak-Herlong bills which would provide for the gradual reduction of income tax rates over a five-year period and set up machinery for holding the budget in control to permit the reduction.—**Stephen Hart**, Denver attorney.

TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE—Resolutions and recommendation on transportation of the past three years have been reviewed, and to the extent that they have not yet been accomplished they continue to be the policy of this association.

We further recommend that the association—

1. Makes a presentation of the live-stock shipper policy before the Senate Transportation Study Committee.
2. Protests the efforts of the railroads to charge for two single-deck cars when a double-deck is ordered but not available.
3. Protests reduction in time of stop privilege at public markets from 10 to five days.
4. Protests the cancellation of the trailer-car rule, but suggests amendment of the rule to prevent present abuses.
5. Urges Congress to restore public representation to the Railway Labor Board, and opposes legislation which would increase cost of transportation by rail or otherwise.
6. Opposes any increase in the fed-

eral gasoline tax, but rather favors obtaining any additional money necessary from the general fund.

7. Opposes any change in the laws presently restricting the railroad ownership or operation of other means of transportation.—**James Sinton**, chairman, Paso Robles, Calif.

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

—The committee felt that the most important factors in the development of the industry's over-all public relations' impact was the work of the individual in his own way and in his own area, and it highly recommends that each cattlemen give serious thought to the strengthening of the industry by personally devoting more attention to the need for good public relations and to the need for greater support of his local, state and national associations' efforts.

Specifically, the committee suggested that more work be done to improve landowner-sportsman relations, with a special motion picture being considered for that purpose; that more material such as pamphlets be made available to schools and consumers; that more publicity be given to the work of the committees of the various associations to show their accomplishments to prospective members; that more emphasis be given through all publicity channels to facts concerning the price of beef; that the publicity spotlight be turned on such dangers to the industry as the wilderness bill and imports.

The committee recommends that all associations, and especially the American National, consider designating more funds for public relations activities.

—**Bob Reese**, Ogden, Utah, for Chairman **J. O. Pearce, Jr.**, Okeechobee, Fla.

FEEDER COMMITTEE—We wish to report relative to Resolution No. 33 passed by this association in Oklahoma City last year (to revise and expand the cattle-on-feed report) that a large portion of the wishes of this association has been effected. This report has been changed in some classifications and covers a larger area. It is a comprehensive, readable report that shows real cooperation on the part of the Department of Agriculture in implementing our request.

Again this year we urge every feeder promptly and fully to fill out his questionnaire in order that the reporting service will have reports from as many feeders as possible to use in its compilation.

Your Resolution No. 35 adopted in Oklahoma City has been put into effect and dressed beef quotations are now being issued by the USDA at both Omaha and Denver.

The committee wishes to warn producers against improper use of hormones on range cattle which may make these cattle undesirable as feeders.

With cattle numbers on the increase, we again most urgently remind the nation's producers and feeders that the prime danger facing the industry

IN SHIPPING LIVESTOCK from RANCH
to FEEDLOT...

Pocket \$4 to \$10
more per head

Trilafon

REDUCES SHRINK UP TO 50%

NO. IN GROUP		TRAVEL TIME	AVERAGE SHRINK (LBS.)		AVERAGE SAVING IN LBS.	EXTRA PROFIT PER ANIMAL SOLD*
Treated	Untreated		Treated	Untreated		
25	24	40 hrs.	52.6	93.5	40.9	\$11.04
15	15	2	16	34	18	4.86
33	30	13	44.5	69	24.5	6.62
13	13	10½	18.07	46.87	28.8	7.78
18	16	3½	11.7	30	18.3	4.94
15	15	4	9.7	25.5	15.8	4.27
54	54	96	31.1	59.3	28.2	7.61

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for less?



President Milburn here holds a "blue ribbon" which he awarded to Maude and Vic Thompson, Newport, Nebr., in recognition of industry public relations work. Noting that tourists often stopped along the highway adjoining their ranch, the Thomp-sons provided a park for tourists and otherwise made the public feel at home.



Discussing some beef grading details are, from left, John Pierce, USDA beef grading expert; J. C. Holbert, Bettendorf, Ia., feeder, and Dean Brown, Santa Maria, Calif., chairman of the association's grading committee.



Honoring the late F. E. Mollin, former secretary of the American National, in a ceremony before the convention. Accepting the Mollin picture to hang in the offices of the association is President G. R. Milburn, left. Presentation was made by Henry Boice, Tucson, Ariz., center, and Hubbard Russell, Maricopa, Calif., both former presidents of the American National.



is weight. The increased numbers of cattle can be consumed if we do not get too much tonnage. Where practicable, cattle should be sold at the light weight which both the feeder and the beef trade desires and readily accepts.—J. C. Wetzler, chairman, Phoenix, Ariz.

RESEARCH COMMITTEE—The committee recommends intensified research at state and national levels to develop a meat type of beef animal that will produce a carcass more nearly meeting consumer demands with more high quality lean meat and less waste fat and which animal will at the same time do a more efficient job of converting feed into edible beef products.

The committee wishes to commend the officers of the association for devoting time on the annual program to the dissemination of up-to-the-minute reliable scientific information on beef cattle production.

The committee recommends that the officers of the association and the general council begin at once to develop a plan looking toward the employment of a full-time man to keep in touch with research progress. Such a man should study current research in all fields of beef cattle production including breeding, feeding, disease control and marketing. He should keep the membership informed of latest developments and help guide producers in recommending future work.

During the year the committee was invited to send recommendations to the National Livestock Advisory Committee of the USDA. Such recommendations will be incorporated in a separate report which will be filed with your secretary and also be sent to the National Livestock Advisory Committee.

The committee urges that the officers of the association make every effort to see that members are informed as quickly as possible of new developments in research. To this end it is urged that space be devoted in the American Cattle Producer each month to reporting late scientific developments.

Your committee further recommends that the officers of the association be instructed to work for increased beef cattle research within the various states and the USDA. We feel that this is particularly important in the field of livestock if the industry is to remain in a position where it is not dependent upon price supports and subsidies.—George Ellis, chairman, Bell Ranch, N. M.

In lobby in the evening were, from left, Sam Hyatt, Hyattville, Wyo., former American National president; Mrs. Radford Hall, Denver, wife of Executive Secretary Radford Hall; Mrs. Don Collins, Kit Carson, Colo., wife of former President Don Collins, and Russel Weeks, Wells, Nev., finance committee member.

(To Page 17)

BEEF GRADING STUDY COMMITTEE—It is essential that federal carcass grading be constantly reviewed by this organization to insure that it be uniformly applied and to keep in step with dynamic meat and food economy. From numerous reports presented at this convention, it is obviously essential that our market system identify beef carcasses that have combined high quality meat with a minimum of waste fat and bone in order to encourage production of carcasses which more nearly meet the consumer demand.

At the Oklahoma City convention last year a resolution was adopted requesting that the USDA proceed immediately with the development and field testing of a grading system wherein present quality grades would be further divided and identified into groups differing in yields of major retail cuts and ratio of fat, lean and bone.

USDA has proceeded with the studies that were requested, and the results of these studies indicate that—

1. There is a wide range in yield of high-priced retail cuts within each grade due to differences in conformation and fatness.

2. The range of yield within each grade tested can be divided into three groups with a workable degree of accuracy.

3. Such a system would provide the market identification necessary to encourage production of carcasses that combine high quality of meat with superior conformation and a minimum of fat trim.

The committee recommends that USDA proceed immediately to conduct such further studies as it deems necessary to furnish the basic information for a revision in grade standards to reflect differences in "cut-outs" within each grade. We further urge that sufficient funds be made available for relating the carcass characteristics affecting cut-outs to the slaughter animal, and for thoroughly demonstrating the application of any proposed revisions of grade standards to all segments of the industry.

The committee has reviewed studies under way on meat quality and also certain proposals for revising existing quality grade lines. It is our recommendation that these studies be continued and intensified and the results of such studies be reflected in grade standards as rapidly as positive information becomes available.—**Dean Brown**, chairman, Santa Maria, Calif.

THE FULL SET of resolutions adopted at Omaha by the American National Cattlemen's Association are available in mimeographed form upon request. A little later they will be set up in printed form in a booklet, along with the list of committee members, officers, committee reports, list of affiliated associations, general council, etc. These also will be available upon request.

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More and more stockmen agree:

"The most promising new forage crop to reach the U.S. since alfalfa"

Hundreds of grower reports say:

- **Nutritious forage**—ideal for grazing, hay, ensilage, green chop
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Growers say—"Best forage crop we've ever raised"

From all over the nation have come hundreds of enthusiastic reports. Letters say—"Everything you said it was", "Just what we've been looking for all our life", "Cattle go for it like kids eat candy", "Beats anything we've ever seen", "Grew 9 feet high on my worst land", "The best pasture I ever tried".

Colorado test produced 2 tons of dehydrated pellets per acre (equivalent of 12 tons green weight) within 56 days from planting date. Pellets tested 14.1% protein and 172,000 units of Vitamin A per lb. Stockmen report grazing 2 to 5 head per acre with gains of 2 lbs. per head per day or better.

Up to 12 tons of hay, 30 tons ensilage per acre

Grows from 6 to 14 feet tall. Stalks are fine in texture, solid, tender and sweet. Leaves are broad, shiny-green, extremely high in Vitamins. Makes ideal grazing for cows, calves and yearlings. Excellent dairy

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Find out what it will do on your own farm this year!

Prove it to yourself—test a few acres this year and see what this remarkable forage crop can do for you. Seed costs only \$2 to \$3 per acre and produces heavy tonnage of palatable, highly nutritious feed. Plant only 1½ to 2 lbs. per acre. Get this pure strain, finest quality, high altitude seed.

Grown from high-sugar, high-protein imported New Zealand parent stock. Plant from April to July depending on climate. Order now—heavy demand for Soil Bank seeding in Texas and New Mexico may cause early sell-out, so don't wait.

Special 5-Acre Test Offer, with Grower's Bulletin, (10 lbs.). Postpd. in U.S. \$12.95

Stockman's 12-Acre Grazing Test, with Grower's Bulletin, (25 lbs.) Pp. \$29.95
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The Junior group at Omaha. Speakers at the Junior meetings included Bill McMillan, Swift & Co., Chicago, and Nebraska's Governor Ralph G. Brooks. A feature of the meeting was presentation of a plaque to Andrew Johnston as "the outstanding person of the year." The Juniors plan to write a monthly column in the Producer to start next month.



The California group, second largest from out of state. South Dakota had the most delegates—77—next to Nebraska



The Arizona group shown here totaled 41 registrants, exactly the same as that for Colorado.



The Idaho delegation poses for a picture.

The MARKET Picture

Feature of the grainfed cattle trade late in January was the sharp gain registered in prices for weighty steers. The price differential between lightweight and heavy weights of the same grade had recently been \$3 to \$4 as choice and prime 1,050 to 1,250-pound steers had brought \$28 to \$29.50, with same grade 1,400 to 1,500 pounds or heavier \$25 to \$26.50. Late in January, prime 1,450 to 1,475-pound steers reached \$30 to \$30.50 in Chicago in contrast with \$31 to \$31.50 paid for 1,100 to 1,250 pound weights.

This tends to indicate that while there is still a considerable number of weighty steers available, the supply of highly finished steers is gradually diminishing. This is further borne out by the fact that recent beef steer statistics indicate a reduced volume of choice and prime cattle being marketed and an increased percentage of good grade. However, dressed beef prices have not yet indicated the narrowing gap, since a spread of as much as \$7 to \$8 existed between extreme heavy carcasses and lightweights.

Early in January, West Coast demand expanded into the intermountain area and large volume of dressed beef moved westward from as far east as Denver, with live cattle being shipped in volume from as far east as Missouri River markets. For a temporary period, beef prices were more attractive to the West than to the eastern seaboard.

Late in January, however, the pattern again shifted, with the major movement again turning to eastern consuming centers, as West Coast beef markets settled back slightly from their relatively high position. Labor difficulties among chain store employees in some West Coast cities tended to disrupt distribution of beef in that area, causing a sudden spurt in beef prices and a later levelling off.

The cattle-on-feed survey reflected a record number of 6,489,000 head on feed Jan. 1, an increase of 11 per cent over a year ago. By areas, the western states had by far the largest percentage increase, showing a gain of 23 per cent, which follows trends in recent years of finishing cattle closer to production area. California showed a gain of 27 per cent over a year ago, while Colorado was up 17 per cent. The Corn Belt reflected a 7 per cent increase, but a few states such as Illinois and Indiana were down slightly. Iowa was up 7 per cent, Nebraska up 12 per cent, and Kansas increased 30 per cent.

As to weight groups, those scaling above 900 pounds were 15 per cent larger in number, those weighing under 900 pounds increased only 8 per cent. Cattle fed more than six months increased by 9 per cent over a year ago,

those fed three to six months increased 14 per cent, and short-feds of less than three months increased by 9 per cent.

Marketing intentions of feeders indicate that 13 per cent more cattle will be marketed during January, February and March than a year ago. However, January and February marketing intentions are indicated to be the largest of the first quarter of 1959, with March tapering off in most states. Also, intentions to market after Apr. 1 show only a 7 per cent increase above a year ago. This would tend to indicate a reliable outlet for fed cattle at least during March and April.

However, if feed costs remain relatively lower than a year ago, there may be the tendency for feeders to hold on to cattle to put on more weight and thus change the indicated pattern. In addition, the effects of a sharply increased fall pig crop could likely be showing up by May and June in the form of increased pork supplies to compete for the consumer's dollar. The pattern of recent weeks, when feeders have been rapidly disposing of cattle showing the lack of long feeding, has been a healthy condition to prevent



Here Glenn LeDioyt, right, with all due ceremony invests G. R. "Jack" Milburn with the array and title of Admiral of the Nebraska Navy. Note Mr. Milburn's "Montana vest."



Four of Louisiana's 37 delegates were, from left, W. L. Caldwell, Lake Charles; Larry Cowley, Shreveport; Jess Loyd, Jr., Shreveport, and E. A. Fullilove, Bossier City.



An interesting "Dot" and "Bud" coincidence: Dot and Alto "Bud" Adams (Mr. Adams is president of the Florida Cattlemen's Association), to the left, and Dot and M. D. "Bud" Webb (Mr. Webb is president of the Arizona Cattle Growers group).

later pile-up of highly finished heavier cattle to swell beef supplies.

This pattern of marketing relatively short-fed cattle recently has not overloaded the market for beef grading below choice, since the price spread between good and choice remains relatively close. In fact, good grade light-weight carcasses continue to out-sell choice heavy carcasses by considerable margin.

Furthermore, there was no change in the recent situation when choice fed heifers were selling right along with choice light steers in price, indicating that carcass weight was more of a factor in setting price than the grade.

Stocker and feeder demand continued reliable and instances of further strength were noted on calves and light yearlings under 700 pounds, while heavier weight feeders showed stability and were in much broader demand than a month ago, since strength returned to extremely heavy fed cattle. Limited rainfall in the dry range areas of California enabled moderate growth of feed in some sections but much of that area had still not received sufficient moisture to start good growth. Recent moisture in the plains helped pastures but unsteady weather cut gains.

Confidence in the future of the cattle industry was demonstrated at the recent Denver Stock Show, when a record number of stocker and feeder cattle sold at highest prices in seven years. Prize-winning stock steer calves sold as high as \$70 to \$78 per cwt. and numerous loads brought \$40 to \$45. Average prices of breeding bulls were running some \$300 per head above a year ago.

Price round-up: Late in January, good and choice fed steers sold from \$25 to \$29, numerous sales from \$26.50 to \$28.50, with choice reaching \$30 on the West Coast and prime to \$31.75 at Chicago. Choice to prime 1,300 to 1,500-pound heavy steers ranged \$26 to \$28.50 and up to \$30.50 at Chicago. Good and low choice new crop heavy steers ranged \$24.50 to \$26. Good and choice heifers brought \$25.50 to \$28.50, numerous sales at \$27 to \$28, with prime heifers reaching \$29 and better. Utility beef cows brought \$19 to \$20.50 and up to \$21.25 in a limited way. Cannery and cutters ranged \$15 to \$18, strongweight cutters to \$19.

Good and choice stock steers scaling 525-660 pounds brought \$27.50 to \$30 quite freely, with future contracts on similar weights in the southern plains for May and June delivery running \$28 to \$33, instances as high as \$35 on some 550-pound weights. Good and choice 750 to 950-pound feeder steers \$25.75-28, occasionally up to \$28.50. Good and choice 575-650-pound feeding heifers \$26-27, quite a number of stocker-fleshed heifers weighing from 625 pounds down \$27-32, some delivering as late as May and June. Good and choice steer calves \$32-38, occasionally choice to fancy up to \$40 with heifer calves \$27.50-33.—C.W.



What's Ahead For Beef Grading

One of the most significant changes in the long history of federal standards for beef is now under consideration by the livestock division of the Agricultural Marketing Service, the USDA agency charged with carrying out the meat grading program.

The idea now being considered is the development of a dual grading system which would give separate identification to the "cutability" factor (or yield of preferred retail cuts) within each of the quality grades.

For instance, carcasses with Choice quality might be further classified into three different groups representing high, average, or low yields. These might then be identified as Choice No. 1, Choice No. 2 and Choice No. 3, or with some similar term for use in trade between packer and retailer.

Probably the quality designation (the traditional grade mark such as USDA Prime, USDA Choice, etc.) would be the only part of the trade that would appear on the retail cuts since the yield designation would have little significance to the consumer who buys individual trimmed retail cuts.

However, to the retailer, the "cutability" of a carcass has a real monetary significance. Studies made by the livestock division show variations in carcasses within the Choice grade which result in differences in yield of the preferred retail cuts (trimmed cuts from the full loin, rib, square cut chuck, and round) of as much as 9 per cent.

Translated into monetary terms, this means a difference in carcass cut-out realization of approximately 10 cents per pound at current retail price levels. When applied to a 600-pound carcass, this amounts to \$60.

Of course, this is an extreme example. However, differences in yield between the high and low yielding

groups within a grade average approximately 5 per cent.

What are the variations that cause such divergence in cut-out yield between carcasses which carry the same quality grade? The answer lies primarily in two factors—conformation and finish.

Present federal grade standards for beef are based on a measure of (1) meat quality—those characteristics of the flesh believed to be associated with the palatability of the beef, and (2) conformation—or the proportion of the various cuts within the carcass and the ratio of fat and lean to bone.

Finish, or fatness, is not used as a grade factor, though it is commonly and mistakenly believed to be. Quality of beef is judged, instead, primarily on the basis of marbling, firmness and color of lean, and maturity of the animal from which the carcass was derived. While marbling is associated to some degree with finish, it is much more closely associated with the fats on the inside of the carcass than the thickness of surface fat.

Conformation has a significant effect on the "cutability" of a carcass. Superior conformation means increased "cutability" or yield of the preferred retail cuts of meat.

Finish, however, has the opposite effect. In other words, the greater the degree of finish, the lower the "cutability."

Since carcasses within grades tend to be more uniform in conformation than they do in their relative quantity of trimmable fat, the finish of the carcass, in a particular grade, has considerably greater influence on the yield of cuts than does conformation.

USDA livestock experts have studied many objective measures of both conformation and finish. Several of these measures were fairly highly correlated with the yield of retail cuts. Generally the best combination of objective measures studied included carcass weight, length of loin, depth of fat over the rib eye, and round circumference.

However, it was found that the subjective evaluation of finish and conformation by the meat technician was a somewhat better indicator of the yield of retail cuts than any combination of the objective measures studied. This indicates an important area for further study.

The studies made to date have pointed up the fact that the primary value determining factors—quality and cutability—are far from being perfectly correlated. Consequently their combination into a single grade, as is done at the present time, represents a compromise between these two factors. It is in an attempt to resolve this compromise and to add the effectiveness of the grade standards that the dual grading system has been originated and is being studied.

There are many additional questions

and aspects of this modification that will need to be carefully considered.

Among them is the question of relating cutability to the slaughter animal. Experience in applying this factor to beef cattle has been rather limited to date, but it is the opinion of livestock specialists that it can and will be done if the cutability factor is recognized in carcass trading.

"Meat type" cattle may be the answer to increased emphasis on cutability. This type of beef animal, with the desirable combination of thick muscling with high quality meat and very little excess fat, does in fact exist.

But before any widespread production of this type of cattle can be expected, two developments appear essential. First, our marketing system must provide an identification of the desired type, and, secondly, our market prices must reflect adequate differentials to provide an incentive for producing meat-type cattle.

So the livestock division is proceeding with its efforts to develop the dual grading system. This is being done through extensive field testing and thorough studies of the plan.

Before any definite proposal can be made, many demonstrations, consultation with the meat and livestock industries, and careful consideration will be required. — **USDA's Agricultural Marketing Magazine.**

SANDHILL SHORTS

It was our pleasure to meet a goodly number of our fellow Sandhillers at the recent Omaha convention and the Denver Stock Show.

At Omaha, practically every state in the Union was somehow represented, whether or not there happened to be an organized stockgrowers state unit, but of course those who have home state affiliations were more numerous in their attendance.

We found a group of people who value their privileges of citizenship and the independent conduct of their own business operations. Those with whom we exchanged ideas still believe that both public and private debt should be paid at the earliest opportunity, instead of being accepted as the order of the day. They also think the people should be more diligent in striving to maintain our constitutional form of government which seems to be leaning towards a more bureaucratic atmosphere.

At Denver we found the yards and stalls full to overflowing with all kinds of superior livestock entries from a surprising number of states and even from across the boundary line to the north. The younger generation was very well represented with 4-H entries.

The entertainment features of the Stock Show were of the best and were superbly managed. We congratulate both Omaha and Denver for their fine effort in preparing for and conducting these two important events in the livestock world. — **Jack Moreland.**

STATE NOTES

● "Adequate diagnostic laboratory facilities" for Montana livestock and poultry industries have been advocated by Governor Aronson. The governor said animal diseases are responsible for a large loss to the "two greatest industries in Montana," and to combat this an adequate diagnostic laboratory must be available. The present laboratory, he said, is outdated, overcrowded, dangerous and inadequate.

● The federal-state market news service at South San Francisco was discontinued Jan. 31 because of increased emphasis on trading at country points. An exploratory program is to be initiated by the market news service to determine the need for reporting auction, feedlot and range sales of beef animals in north central California.

● Georgia's agriculture department will seek passage of a bill to provide state inspection of meat packinghouses. There is a law now governing slaughterhouses not governed by federal regulations, but it applies only to packers not engaged in interstate business and is operated voluntarily. The state's legislature last year adopted a resolution authorizing \$300,000 for inspectors for smaller plants but there was no law providing for such inspection.

● A bill to lower the reclassification rate for tax purposes of livestock and poultry and their unprocessed by-products has been introduced in the Montana legislature. Proponents say the measure would reduce livestock and poultry to the 30 per cent class for tax purposes, which would more fairly distribute the tax load with other agriculture segments.

Some Packers Earn More, Some Less Than in 1957

Swift & Co.'s dollar sales reached a new high in 1958 but earnings declined, according to President Porter Jarvis. Dollar sales of \$2,645,388,982 for the year ended Nov. 1 were up 1 per cent over 1957. Net earnings were \$10,048,372, compared with \$13,537,821 for 1957.

Net earnings of Geo. A. Hormel & Co., Austin, Minn., declined slightly to \$3,000,391 in the fiscal year ended Oct. 25, compared with \$3,315,000 in 1957, although the dollar sales were the highest in the company's history.

Armour & Co. earnings for 1958 estimated at \$5.5 million, compared with \$3.37 million in 1957. The improved figures came from earnings in the food division with Armour Chemical Industries operating at the same profit level as the previous year.

Net earnings of John Morrell & Co., Chicago, increased substantially in the fiscal year ended Nov. 1, 1958, and Hygrade Food Products Corp., Detroit, also earned more than in 1957. Morrell sales of more than \$400 million were the highest in the company's history and earnings after taxes about \$2,300,000.

Stockmen's Handbook

Washington State College has come out with a Stockmen's Handbook which contains summaries of lectures given at the annual stockmen's short course at the college. The 511-page (8½x11 in. page) book has sections on breeding, feeds and feeding, pastures and ranges, production and management, buildings and equipment, diseases, outlook and meats. (\$5.50, Department of Animal Science, State College of Washington, Pullman, Wash.)

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RE- SEARCH

ARTIFICIAL TWINNING

Artificial twinning of cattle is being advocated by United Kingdom livestock specialists as one way greatly to increase beef production and lower costs. British experiments show that Shorthorn cows injected with hormones before breeding produce one, two and some three calves per birth, or an average of two calves per birth. If cows are well fed before and after calving, twin calves do almost as well as singles. At maturity there is little or no difference in weights. In a Reuters story we note that the experiment, after 20 years of world-wide research, began last month when the first of 2,000 cows was injected, to be followed in a few days by artificial insemination from a pedigreed Hereford bull. Normally only one birth

in 80 produces twin calves, but the experimenters hope to increase the number of twins to 30 per 100. Cost of the injection is about 70 cents.

MOUNTAIN MEADOWS Mountain Meadow Management Studied

Several years of mountain meadow research in Colorado shows that the proper combination of practices, including the time of harvesting, use of irrigation water, and fertilization has these potential advantages for beef cattle producers: It produces market-weight beef animals faster, reduces forage, increases the yield of harvested forage per acre, and increases the crude protein content of the forage. The research on this was conducted by the USDA's Agricultural Research Service and the Colorado Experiment Station at Grand Junction, Colo.

DISCARDS OXYGEN TENT

A new method of piping oxygen to sick animals has been developed by a University of Wisconsin veterinary scientist, Dr. Tadeusz Kowalczyk. The veterinarian discovered the method while attempting a last-resort treatment of a cow with bronchial pneumonia after drugs and antibiotics had failed. He inserted a small tube in one of the cow's nostrils and passed pure oxygen into her lungs. The animal recovered rapidly. Veterinarians see future use for the method in treating animals suffering from diseases ranging from pneumonia and anemia to certain types of allergy and poisoning. Previous methods of giving oxygen have involved use of masks or oxygen tents—complex and expensive methods.

THE PUBLIC . . . AND YOU

BY
LYLE LIGGETT

Once again outstanding newsmen have demonstrated that they will repay in kind the type and quality of services offered them.

The Omaha convention was another example of the cooperation and understanding of magazine, newspaper, radio and television men. As in prior conventions, the newsmen of the Omaha-Lincoln area pitched in early to make things easier for the American National and for the 35 "visiting" newsmen. And, as in previous conventions, the visitors were more than kind in accepting working-condition handicaps, in realizing that our limited staff could not be in two places at once, and in reciprocating for our service with unusually fine and extensive coverage of an agricultural event.

With no attempt at trying to thank them all publicly, I cannot overlook an eternal debt to Jim Browitt of the American Shorthorn Association and to such Omaha-Lincoln newsmen as Bob Rasmussen, Kirby Kittoe, Don Muhm, Marvin Russell, Bruce Davies, Arnold Peterson, Roe Black and Milt Nelson who were representative of the men who helped me with press arrangements AND still had to do their own jobs, too!

It was also gratifying that Farm Journal, the National Farm and Home Hour on NBC, the Wall Street Journal and other major media "covered" the convention in their usually excellent fashion. Interesting, too, was that news media of such prior convention cities

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as New Orleans, Phoenix and Oklahoma City thought enough of our news value to be represented again in the press-radio-TV corps.

Press working conditions and resulting "coverage" were different for every town and every convention. But the American National—and all other cattle groups—can be assured of continuing cooperation and understanding IF we continue to provide the SERVICE the hardworking newsmen need.

Secretaries of affiliated state and county groups have been receiving this month a special file folder of publicity suggestions and techniques, prepared by the American National as an extra service.

The file, touching on such subjects as preparation of news releases, advance planning for convention publicity, and development of publicity mailing lists, will be augmented from time to time with examples of successful practices. A limited number of copies is available for additional distribution to publicity chairmen of associations and CowBelle groups.

Coincidence Department

Denver has a mail-order service for new license plates, and motorists never know what numbers they'll be assigned. This year Rad Hall and Lyle Liggett mailed their orders in about a month apart. Their new numbers are only six apart and both carry the prefix initials AN—for American National, of course.

Cow Pony Corral

By Roy Lilley

I guess if I would check back through some of my earlier articles I would find that I am already on record as saying that color is about the third consideration in importance when picking a saddle horse. I'll still stand on that statement. Nevertheless, I would like to use this space to tip my hat to the people who are breeding Appaloosas.

It seems to me that the Appaloosa people have done a fine job of combining an eye-catching color and a tradition of Indian lore along with a desire to raise a horse that can do something.

The Appaloosa show at the National Western Stock Show in Denver this year certainly indicated the sincere dedication of the people breeding Appaloosas and the fact that they have come a long way in a comparatively short time. There were 104 entries by 51 exhibitors from 10 states in the show. There were Appaloosas from as far east at Minneapolis, some from down in Texas, and the remainder generally from the mountain and plains area. The show featured the one performance class, which was an Indian costume class with teepees and all.

From what scattered reports I have read, it looks as though these speckled horses are commanding a good price on the market, and I have noticed folks raising other breeds of horses perking up their ears when they learned of a horse of their particular breed that also carried this coloring. It just stands to

reason that, when you can add the appeal that the Appaloosa has demonstrated itself to have to your own good bloodlines, you can greatly increase the outlet for your own horses.

The main trouble is, these folks have done such a good job of promoting their new breed that you would have to have a partnership in a bank to get some breeding stock.

I can't divorce myself from a pet prejudice, so in wishing the Appaloosa breeders good luck, let's hope that most folk attach more importance to color and romance than I do.

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Through a Ranch House Window

By DOROTHY McDONALD



Mrs. McDonald

The National convention over, we're ready now to settle down behind our new officers to this year's program of public relations, beef promotion and—I hope—the fun and fellowship that makes our CowBelle organization worthwhile.

I've been thinking about Yodie Burghart's request that each state president give a brief two-minute report of the year's activities at the convention, and wondering if in the future it wouldn't be a good idea for them to send a carbon copy of that report to us here at Chimes?

Though we might have to combine and condense a good deal, we'd probably be able to compile a report of other group's activities for the stay-at-homes and as a source of reference for those who were there but can't recall details of the reports. Think about it, won't you? It might be a good feature to incorporate in our page here in years to come.

* * *

What new ideas do you have for 1959? A pleasant one begun last month by Bea Peterson, president of the North Dakota 'Belles, is in the form of spot-check interviews with three or four members in different parts of the state each month. These will appear, with a picture of the member, her home, her family, etc., in Bar North, their state

magazine, and will be sent to newspapers in their area. Not only will this feature help the North Dakota CowBelles to become better acquainted with members in other parts of the state, but through the hometown newspaper stories the featured ladies will be contributing to that sort of good publicity for our organization that I talked about last month. It's an idea other groups might find attractive.

By typing or mimeographing a one-page questionnaire that could be sent to different members each month, with the request they mail it when completed direct to the state magazine, it wouldn't take too much time. Of course mailing a copy of the story to the local newspapers would be a job someone would have to undertake, but it wouldn't be a very big one. It would depend on whether or not the editor of the state livestock magazine would go along with the idea, but they're such a wonderfully generous and cooperative bunch to all our CowBelle ideas that I do not doubt they would.

* * *

I know you all join me in welcoming our new officers, and I want to say a special personal "thank you" to Clelie Dekle, who took time out of what must have been a very crowded schedule to airmail me each evening a complete report of that day's activities at the Omaha convention so that, although these pages must meet a deadline that fell only two days after the meeting closed, you'll find full coverage of it in this month's Chimes. A gracious gesture, Clelie, that I know all stay-at-home CowBelles do appreciate!

CARTER COUNTY (Mont.) CowBelle officers for 1959: From left, seated, Mmes. J. Oliver Teigen, president; Ernest Funk, Ronald Dumont, first and second vice presidents; Chas. J. Thompson, secretary; standing, Glen Hall, past secretary; Bill Mader, Fage Toole, Ted Bickerdyke, council members.



American National

CowBelle Chimes

Vol. 7, No. 2

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President—Mrs. N. H. Dekle, Plaquemine, La.
Vice-Presidents—Mrs. J. B. Smith, Pawhuska, Okla.; Mrs. Clyde King, Boulder, Utah; Mrs. John Harting, Pomeroy, Wash.
Secretary-Treasurer—Mrs. W. T. Cobb, Baton Rouge, La.
Editor—Mrs. Dorothy McDonald, 303 N. 47th St., San Diego 2, Calif.

The American National CowBelles held their annual convention in conjunction with the American National Cattlemen's meeting in Omaha, Jan. 14-17. On Wednesday evening Mrs. Frances Furman, Nebraska CowBelles president, and her reception committee were hostesses to the delegates at a reception at the Fontenelle Hotel. Past presidents Mrs. Mose Trego and Mrs. Fred Dressler poured at a table cleverly decorated to carry out the theme, "Satellite and Space Age." Later, delegates from 19 states gave brief reports of their states' 1958 activities.

The ladies' luncheon and style show was held in the ballroom of the Fontenelle Hotel on Thursday, with Brandeis Department Store sponsoring. Co-chairmen Mrs. Frank Berrigan, Sr., and Mrs. Frank Berrigan, Jr., and presiding CowBelle Mrs. Katherine Andre had arranged a delicious luncheon and a most interesting program. In addition to beautiful door prizes, guests received many favors which included pottery pieces and leather earrings from the Nebraska CowBelles, Beef Sweet Steaks from Oregon, large "brand" napkins from the Wyoming CowBelles and Brandeis presented each lady with a plastic purse rain cap.

On Friday morning the ladies took a fictitious trip via Space Rocket Omaha X-1959, with "flight engineer" Mrs. Charles O'Rourke, wife of the vice-president of the Union Stock Yards Co. in charge. After feasting on a sputnik-like menu, courtesy of Nixon & Co., and entertainment by the Union Pacific Quartet, the annual business meeting was called to order by Mrs. Robert Burghart. Officers for 1959 were elected; guests were introduced by Mrs. John Furman; there was a brief memorial service led by Mrs. Lee Perkins,

AMERICAN CATTLE PRODUCER



A couple of the more than 500 Cow-Belles who attended the Omaha convention. From left, Mrs. Howard Clegg, Tooele, Utah, and Mrs. Si Berthelsen, Rio Blanco, Colo.

and charter members were recognized by Mrs. Robert Burghart, retiring president.

At Saturday's breakfast for Cow-Belle officers and general council, plans for the coming year were inaugurated, new officers introduced and new chairmen appointed. The theme of this breakfast, sponsored by Safeway Stores, was "The World Comes to the Cow-Belles' Breakfast through Flavor." Fruits were flown in especially for this meal from Italy, Africa, South America, Hawaii, California, Washington and Florida. Miss Rogers of Safeway Stores was hostess, and Mr. Brick Hawley, public relations manager, greeted the guests. He in turn introduced Mr. Rilea Doe, vice-president of Safeway Stores and a long-time friend of the Cow-Belles.

The Cowbelles later joined their menfolk at the closing session of the convention and the banquet and ball that finished off a wonderful meeting.

Officers and committee members for 1959 are: president, Mrs. N. H. Dekle, Plaquemine, La.; vice-presidents, Mrs. J. B. Smith, Pawhuska, Okla.; Mrs. Clyde King, Boulder, Utah; Mrs. John Harting, Pomeroy, Wash.; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. W. T. Cobb, Baton Rouge, La.; delegate-at-large, Mrs. Frank Fullmer, Caro, Mich.; beef promotion chairman, Mrs. Lee Perkins, Richmond, Kan.; All-American Father, of the Year chairman, Mrs. J. B. Smith, Pawhuska, Okla.; Beef-for-Father's-Day chairman, Mrs. William Garrison, Glen, Mont.; co-chairman; Mrs. Jack Hirschy, Jackson, Mont.; public relations chairman, Mrs. John Harting, Pomeroy, Wash.; membership and scrap book chairman, Mrs. Clyde King, Boulder, Utah.

The California CowBelles held their annual meeting in conjunction with the

cattlemen's convention in the Flamingo Hotel, Santa Rosa, Dec. 4-6, 1958, with delegates from 18 counties present. The Sonoma County 'Belles, organized only last June, acted as hostesses. There are now 25 local organizations in California, representing 35 counties. State membership reported was 645, with 70 new members in 1958.

Reports of county groups showed that five had given scholarships to students of agriculture, eight participated in cooking schools, 17 had entries in county fairs. Total amount won in awards by these groups was more than \$1,800. Many county groups had donated amounts from \$5 to \$75 for the purchase of beef to be used in home economics classes in their local high schools, and many reported distribution of recipe cards in amounts from 5,000 to 30,000 during the year.

Following election of officers, who in California serve for two years, retiring president Mrs. J. B. Williams and her secretaries, Mrs. Ray Lynn and Mrs. David Snedden, were presented with appropriate gifts in recognition of a job well done.

California officers for 1959-1960 are: president, Mrs. Frank Giorgi, Buellton, Calif.; vice-presidents, Mrs. Russell Peavey, Miramar Branch, San Diego; Mrs. Glen Cornelius, Santa Barbara; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Eugene L. Johnson, Box 263, New Cuyama.

Letters To The Editor (Cont. fr. P. 2)

SMOOT REPORT—Hubbard Russell's selection of the Dan Smoot Report of Dec. 1, 1958, on currency debauchery is the finest thing I've read on the subject (see January Producer, Page 20). We should try every way possible to get wide distribution of it. Why don't you see at what price copies, by the hundreds, could be made available? —E. M. Adams, Melville, Mont.

(The report mentioned is entitled "Inflation." Reprints are available at \$10 for 100. Address Dan Smoot, P. O. Box 9611, Lakewood Station, Dallas 14, Texas. Single copies are available without charge from the American National Cattlemen's Association, 801 East 17th Ave., Denver 18, Colo.)

COW PONY ENTHUSIAST—What kind of New Year is this without Cow Pony Corral in the Producer? Being a horsy gal (Quarter Horse, that is) the first thing, I would thumb through the pages to the column Cow Pony Corral, which contained more down-to-earth horse sense and sound advice in the small space allotted to it than reams oftentimes printed in horse magazines that came to my mail box.—Mrs. Helen S. Fenwick, Jordan Falls, Ore.

(Roy Lilley's Cow Pony Corral column starts again this month, now that convention rush is over.—En.)

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BREED and SALES

HEREFORD WINNERS NAMED IN ARIZONA STOCK SHOW

At the Arizona National Livestock Show Hereford steers took grand and reserve championships in the pen of five feeder calves and the pen of five fat steers. Champion feeder calves were shown by Mike Hinman, Kremmling, Colo.; the reserve pen came from Kimball Ranch, Alpine, Tex. The Wyoming Hereford Ranch, at Cheyenne, won the championship in the female show on a senior yearling, and had the reserve champion bull, a summer yearling.

CHAROLAIS GROUP REPORTS ON STATUS; PLANS SALE

Year-end figures on activities of the American-International Charolais Association, show membership in 32 states and seven other countries and territories. Since consolidation of the American Charolais-Charbray and International Charolais Association 17 months ago, 92 new members have been approved. As of Jan. 15, 1959, association herd books showed 22,723 crossbred and 3,341 purebred Charolais cattle registered and recorded. The annual sale will be held in Houston Feb. 25.



American Hereford Assn. photo

Golden Husker, a junior calf, won the reserve championship of the National Hereford Show for his owners Jake Hess, McLean, Texas, and Jay B. Pumphrey, Old Glory, Texas. Shown with the bull are (left to right) Jay B. Pumphrey, Alan Feeney, Phoenix, Ariz., president of the American Hereford Association, and Jake Hess.

SANTA GERTRUDIS CATTLE TO SELL IN LOUISIANA

For the first time, Santa Gertrudis cattle from Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee and Texas will be sold at public auction in the same ring, on Mar. 12 at the Louisiana State University Livestock Show in Baton Rouge. The Delta Santa Gertrudis Association will offer 40 head of the breed—halter-broken bulls and females. Judging of the cattle, expected to make up the largest showing of Santa Gertrudis ever to be assembled at one show, will be held Mar. 9.

ANGUS STEERS TAKE TOP HONORS IN ARIZONA SHOW

A pair of Angus steers took grand championship and reserve championship honors at the Arizona National Livestock Show in Phoenix last month. The 1,025-pound top steer was shown by Carole Lynn Greenfield, Marana, Ariz. The next-high spot went to "Chuck" Wood, Jr., of Spencer, Ia.; this was a 1,055-pounder. The champion sold for \$3.25 a pound, the reserve winner for \$2.10.

SO. ARIZONA SHOW OFFERS FULL CARD OF EVENTS

The 1959 Southern Arizona International Livestock Show, Mar. 12-15 at Tucson, will, for the first time, be open to all breeds of cattle from all over the United States. In addition, practically every type of horsemanship event will be included on the program. Expanded facilities will also provide for increased junior participation. Premium lists, entry blanks and tickets are available at the show offices, 120 Santa Rita Hotel, Tucson, Ariz.

HOUSTON FAT STOCK SHOW TO HAVE LARGEST EXHIBITS

The 1959 Houston Fat Stock Show, Feb. 25-Mar. 8, will have more cattle in the ring than in any previous year, according to President Douglas B. Marshall. The 11 breeds to be shown are Angus, Hereford, Shorthorn, Brahman, Charolais, Santa Gertrudis, Brangus, Charbray, Red Poll, Holstein-Friesian and Jersey. There will be several sales of registered, fitted breeds: Angus, Charolais, Hereford, Shorthorn and Quarter Horses.

FAT HEREFORDS, FEEDERS WIN IN DENVER COMPETITION

Grand championship honors in the carload competition of both fat and feeder cattle at the National Western Stock Show in Denver were taken by Hereford steers. Karl and Jack Hoffman of Ida Grove, Ia., showed the fat carload of fat steers later purchased at \$48 a cwt. Top spot for feeder calves went to a load from Mike Hinman Ranch, Kremmling, Colo. The steers averaged 531 pounds and brought \$78 a cwt.

In the Hereford auction sale at the National Western, 138 bulls led into the ring returned a total of \$337,740 to average \$2,447 a head—an increase of \$280 per animal over the sale last year. The 11 females offered brought \$14,325 for a \$1,284 average—a \$523 increase per head over last year.

HOUSTON MAYOR PROCLAIMS BRAHMAN DAY

Mayor Lewis Cutrer has proclaimed Feb. 27 as Brahman Day in Houston, Tex. It was in 1885 that two Houston ranchers, J. M. Frost and Albert Montgomery, became acquainted with cattle of India. They ventured to import two bulls of the alien species. Seeing success of this experiment, other Texas cattlemen followed suit and the foundation stock for the forthcoming American Brahman beef breed was brought to the United States.

ANGUSMEN INITIATE FIRST PERFORMANCE TEST PLAN

The American Angus Association will draft a performance testing program for use by association members on a voluntary basis. Initial plans have been made for the first performance testing program sponsored by a national beef breed organization. The association's previous herd classification program which got under way in May 1958, also was an important first for the Angus breed. Under this program, all animals of breeding age in a herd are given official numerical classification scores.

56 ANGUS BULLS SELL AT \$1.191 IN DENVER

At Denver's recent National Western show 56 Angus bulls, selling "on the hill," averaged \$1.191 while 106 pens of Angus bulls, selling "in the yards," brought a \$991 average. The 162 bulls most of which sold to commercial cattlemen, averaged \$1,053. Thirty-one females figured \$390.

NEW BOOK ANSWERS QUESTIONS ABOUT CHAROLAIS

A 12-page booklet entitled "Questions and Answers about Charolais" has been published by the American-International Charolais Association. A brief history of the breed and the association is included. Persons interested in obtaining copies may write the association, 437 Texas Natl. Bank Bldg., Houston 2, Tex.

CHAROLAIS AND CROSS TO SELL AT SAN ANTONIO

Under auspices of the Texas Charolais & Charolais-Cross Sales Corp., a number of Texas breeders will bring a consignment sale of 33 top animals to the San Antonio Livestock Exposition, Feb. 18. Sale catalogs are available from the offices at 831 Majestic Bldg., Box 1201, San Antonio.

BECKTON FARM BULL SLATED FOR ARMOUR BREED STUDY

Beckton Stock Farm of Sheridan, Wyo., is sending the outstanding son of its old herd bull, Serenade, to enter the Armour & Co. artificial breeding program. He will be used in Hereford crossbreeding experiments. The various crossbred progeny will all be given feed tests and, eventually, carcass evaluations.

ARIZ. HONORS SHARED BY WHR, HULL-DOBBS

Wyoming Hereford Ranch showed the grand champion Hereford female, a senior yearling, and the reserve champion Hereford bull, a summer yearling, at the Arizona National Livestock Show in Phoenix, Jan. 7-10. Hull-Dobbs Ranch of Fort Worth had the grand champion Hereford bull, a senior yearling, and the reserve grand champion Hereford female, a spring calf.

PROGRAM SET FOR ANGUS CONFERENCE AT KAN. COLLEGE

Subjects affecting improved beef cattle production will be featured at the fifth annual American Angus conference, Mar. 15-17 at Kansas State College in Manhattan. The event is jointly sponsored by the Kansas and American Angus associations and the theme will be "It's Beef that Counts."

CALLAN'S GERTRUDIS BULL GAINS WEIGHT ON LONG TRIP

A Santa Gertrudis bull bred at Callan Ranch, Waco, Tex., has been given wide recognition in Southern Rhodesia. The animal, "Gentleman Jim," arrived there recently at a greater weight than when he was shipped from Houston by boat late in 1958. He weighed in at Salisbury at 835 pounds, aged nine months.

DENVER SHORTHORN SALE SHOWS AVERAGE OF \$662

In the National Western show's Shorthorn sale last month at Denver \$27,145 was realized on 41 lots for a \$662 average with 38 bulls figuring \$686 and three females \$357. Top bull price was \$1,650; the top for a female was \$450.

NO SPRING SALE THIS YEAR AT THE WHR IN CHEYENNE

The Wyoming Hereford Ranch, Cheyenne, Wyo., will not hold a spring sale this year, but Manager George Lazear advises they have 120 bred heifers for sale at private treaty.

BULLS

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"Our Herefords build the beef where the highest priced cuts of meat grow"

Grand champion steer at the recent National Western Stock Show in Denver was this Angus shown by J. Robert Carr, Wilton Junction, Iowa, at the halter. Left is Herman R. Purdy, Penn. State University, judge, and holding the banner is L. M. Pexton, president of the show. The steer set a National Western price record when it brought \$3.70 per pound selling to the Tiffin Inn of Denver.



American Angus Assn. photo.

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Expanded On-Feed Report Shows 11 Per Cent Increase

An expanded cattle-on-feed report (it now includes 21 states as against 13 formerly and gives more information on types and weights—at the request a year ago of the American National) shows a record 6.5 million cattle and calves getting ready for market. The Jan. 1 estimate was 11 per cent over the previous year.

Numbers on feed were up 23 per cent in the West, where feeding is increasing. In the Corn Belt the increase was 7 per cent.

In the Corn Belt animals weighing more than 900 pounds increased 15 per cent. Those under 900 pounds were up 8 per cent. Those fed six months increased 9 per cent, three to six months 14 per cent, and those under three months were up 9 per cent from last year.

Thirteen per cent more cattle were expected to be marketed in the first quarter than a year ago, with heavy marketings in February. After Apr. 1, intentions show that only 7 per cent more marketings will be made than a year ago.

"This would tend to indicate a reliable outlet for fed cattle at least during March and April, but, if feed costs remain relatively lower than a year ago, there may be a tendency for feeders to hold to put on more weight—and effects of a sharply increased fall pig crop could be showing up by May and June in the form of increased pork," according to Carroll Wells in his market story in this issue.

Turning to another expert opinion on the report, we quote some paragraphs from the Iowa Farm Outlook Letter, written by Tom Rackham of the Iowa State College:

"The larger number now on feed reflects in part the earlier movement of cattle into feedlots than was the case in late 1957. Also relatively big increases from Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado may be an indication of a larger than usual movement of cattle from wheat pastures into feedlots.

"Relatively more cattle over 900 pounds and on feed three to six months leave little doubt that more and heavier fed cattle will be available for mar-

ket in late winter months than in the corresponding period of 1958.

"The surge in fed cattle prices that started about this time last year stimulated marketing intentions for early 1959. Peak deliveries for the quarter are slated for the short month of February. Offsetting the price depressing features of this outlook is the continued scarcity of lower grades of beef."

One Per Cent Increase In Beef Output Seen

Figures presented to the National Meat Promotion Committee in a Chicago meeting focused attention on the unusual situation of a concurrent rise in numbers of all three species—cattle, sheep and hogs—in addition to increased poultry and turkeys.

It was the feeling of the committee that while meat supplies in 1959 will be the second highest — primarily through increased pork—the economic and marketing situation is much different from that in the previous high period of 1955-56.

However, it was recommended that the industry continue with its promotion programs and plan them in line with the supply outlook.

Carl F. Neumann, chairman, was authorized to reconvene the committee in June or July, if developments during the next six months indicate a need for special promotions. Participating were representatives of the American National, American Sheep Producers, National Swine Growers, National Live Stock Producers Association, American Farm Bureau, American Meat Institute, National Restaurant Association, Poultry and Egg National Board, USDA and National Live Stock and Meat Board.

The committee noted that an increase of some 10 per cent in pork production is indicated for 1959, with supplies expected to have strongest impact in March and April and again throughout the last quarter.

Regarding beef, it was observed that an increase of 1 per cent is expected in 1959 compared with 1958, but with some difference in distribution. The normal seasonal marketing pattern should show itself again in 1959, especially with greater supplies in spring and again in November than came to market in those periods last year.

Per Capita Consumption—Meat and Poultry (1949-1959)

	1949	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958*	1959*
Beef	63.9	63.4	56.1	62.2	77.6	80.1	82.0	85.4	84.5	80.5	79.0
Lamb	4.1	4.0	3.4	4.2	4.7	4.6	4.6	4.4	4.2	4.1	4.2
Pork	67.7	69.2	71.9	72.4	63.5	60.0	66.8	67.4	61.5	60.5	66.0
Veal	8.9	8.0	6.6	7.2	9.5	10.0	9.4	9.5	8.8	6.8	6.8
Total	144.6	144.6	138.0	146.0	155.3	154.7	162.8	166.7	159.0	151.9	156.0
Chicken	19.6	20.6	21.7	22.1	21.9	22.8	21.4	24.6	25.6	28.5	28.5
Turkey	3.3	4.1	4.4	4.7	4.8	5.3	5.0	5.2	5.9	5.6	5.7
Total	22.9	24.7	26.1	26.8	26.7	28.1	26.4	29.8	31.5	34.1	34.2
Meat and poultry	167.5	169.3	164.1	172.8	182.0	182.8	189.2	196.5	190.5	186.0	190.2

Figures furnished by National Meat Promotion Committee. * Estimated.

Vertical Integration In the Cattle Business

Vertical integration within agriculture has grown rapidly in recent years, and it has taken many forms.

In the production of hogs, for example, integration may refer to either of two types of production arrangements: Sow-and-pig contracts or feeder-pig contracts. With the sow-and-pig arrangement, bred sows are leased to the farmer who then finances the production program on his own. With the feeder-pig contract, the farmer usually contributes only the housing, equipment, and labor necessary for production; a feed company or other integrator provides everything else.

Integration in the cattle industry is something entirely different. It occurs mostly in the large commercial feedlots of the West Coast states and may extend either forward from the rancher or backward from the packer or chain store. In the first instance, the rancher retains ownership of the cattle through the feeding period; in the second, the packer or chain store itself owns the cattle.

The growth of the large commercial feedlot is, perhaps, one of the most significant developments in the livestock industry in recent years. Triggered by the West's increasing demand for "fed" beef, commercial feedlots have ex-

panded rapidly. About one-third of the fed cattle in this country come from the feedlots in the West.

Often referred to as "beef factories," these feedlots are in continuous operation the year around. They feed anywhere from 1,000 to 30,000 head of cattle annually, with livestock moving in and out of some of the larger lots every week of the year.

Although the large commercial feedlot is not always a contract operation, it has, to some extent, given rise to contractual arrangements for the feeding of beef cattle. Such contracts, however, vary considerably. Some are written; others are only verbal.

Contracts also vary in the extent of their coverage. Usually, though, the feedlot operator receives a daily per head handling fee, the actual cost of the ingredient feeds, and perhaps an allowance for the cost of milling the grains.

At present, less than half the cattle fed in western commercial feedlots are handled under custom arrangements. Packers, however, have been feeding some cattle for the past 10 to 20 years. Several chain store companies also entered the cattle feeding business during World War II when meat supplies were scarce.

Custom feeding arrangements are particularly well suited to both packers and chain stores. Yet, neither of these marketing groups has taken a very active part in the beef feeding business. Some chain stores have abandoned their operations, and many packers appear to be "in and out," depending on the profit prospects.

Both the commercial feedlots and the custom feeding arrangements appear to be more characteristic of the West than the Corn Belt. A few large commercial lots are located in the Missouri River area, and some contract feeding of cattle is carried on in the Corn Belt. But, most of these contracts are production credit arrangements for feeding commercial protein supplements manufactured by certain firms.

The commercial feedlots of the West Coast will not supplant farmer-feeders in the Corn Belt during the next decade or so. There will be some growth in the number of cattle fed in these large feedlots.

The commercial feedlot has become firmly situated. It has been able to survive drastic price declines and, no doubt, will expand in the future with the growth in population in the West Coast states.

Custom feeding by chain stores and meat packers probably will not expand as steadily. These marketing agents are expected to continue their fluctuating policy of moving into the livestock feeding business when the profits look good and out when the situation is not so favorable. — **Gerald Engelman** in **USDA's Agricultural Marketing**.

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BULL POWER

For the 11th consecutive year, CK bulls have produced either the champion or reserve champion carload of bulls at Denver. There were 26 loads of yearlings shown this year. CK Ranch exhibited the first (Grand Champion) and the sixth prize loads. There were eight loads of senior bull calves shown. CK Ranch exhibited the third prize load. In the junior calves, there were eight loads shown. The second prize load exhibited by Alfred Meeks & Sons, Taylor, Nebraska, were all sired by CK Crusty 112 or one of his sons.

In the show on the hill at Denver, CK Ranch exhibited two first prize bulls. A Crusty won the two-year old bull class, and a Ckato won the spring bull calf class. The champion bull, BHR Silver Tone C-10, is out of CK Silver Lady 3. He was exhibited by Bianchi & Sanford, Macon, Missouri. Eleven bulls sired by CK bulls sold for an average of \$3,409 on the hill at Denver.

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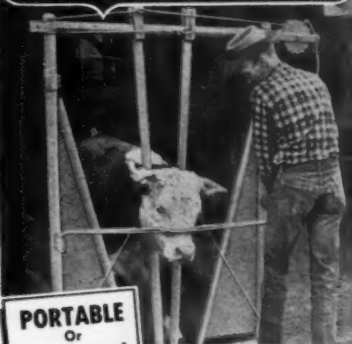
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Personal Mention

Arthur W. Greeley, regional forester at Milwaukee, will on Mar. 1 become assistant chief of the USDA's Forest Service, succeeding **Howard Hopkins**, retired last July. **M. M. Nelson** succeeds Mr. Greeley at Milwaukee; at present he is deputy assistant chief in charge of national forest resource management in Washington.

Agriculture Dean A. D. Weber of Kansas State College, Manhattan, has been named to a team of 12 American agricultural experts who will go to India for two months to advise the government there on ways to increase food production. The mission was requested by the Indian government and is being financed by the Ford Foundation.

Dr. William A. Hagan, Ithaca, N. Y., has been named director of USDA's new National Animal Disease Laboratory under construction at Ames, Ia. Dr. Hagan has authored more than 100 scientific papers and publications, including a textbook, "The Infectious Diseases of Domestic Animals."

The condition of **Marion Jeffrey**, El Reno, Okla., is reported most encouraging. Mr. Jeffrey, husband of CowBelle State President **Dorothy**, suffered a heart attack while in Omaha attending the American National convention.

Deaths

John Leakey: Passed away recently in Menard, Tex., at 84 years of age. He had recently told the story of his life to **Nellie Snyder Yost**, Maxwell, Nebr., which she put in a book, "The West That was: From Texas to Montana" (see Page 35, January Producer). Mr. Leakey's father founded the town of Leakey, Tex. John Leakey started as a cowboy at 16, later owned a ranch in North Dakota, only to lose it in the depression of the 30's. He was a founder of the North Dakota Stockmen's Association and its president for 10 years. He had been active in affairs of the American National.

Louis H. Rouviere: Mr. Rouviere passed away at Cortez, Colo., on Dec. 24, at age 84. For more than 40 years he had owned the Rainbow Ranch near Gunnison, and he was active in the Gunnison County Cattlemen's Association. He wrote the original draft for the Taylor Grazing Act and was sent by his local association to Washington to confer with the late Congressman **Edward Taylor** and help frame the act which is still in effect. He was for many years a member of the executive and public lands committees of the American National.

USDA Posts 275 Auction Markets in Five States

Posting of 275 additional livestock auction markets in Virginia, North Carolina, Mississippi, Michigan and Ohio has been announced by the USDA. This is the first step in implementing the amendment to the Packers and Stockyards Act, which extended jurisdiction to all public stockyards doing interstate business. Previously only yards with 20,000 sq. ft. were subject to the regulations which have to do with service charges, facilities, producer funds, bonds, records and weighing. The USDA said additional markets will be posted soon; also that it is increasing its activity under the P&SY Act in the packing field.

Texas Animal Health Council Proposes Brucellosis Program

The Texas Animal Health Council, which is made up of 31 agricultural groups, has proposed legislation for the "control and eradication of brucellosis," providing for testing and vaccination and area or county programs and authorizing the Livestock Sanitary Commission to "promulgate and enforce regulations for the testing, vaccination, certification and disposition of cattle. . ."

More New Zealand Lambs; More for Export

A foreign news item says that the spring lamb crop in New Zealand is estimated at 31 million head, about 3 million more than the record in 1957. (In New Zealand spring is from October through December.) It is expected that the big lamb crop will permit exports of about 16 million carcasses, compared with 15 million exported in 1958.

Eastern Market Report Says Good Higher than Choice

A recent eastern seaboard dressed meat report contained this interesting comment, in view of complaints of inability to move beef that won't grade choice:

"WEIGHT AND DEGREE OF FINISH PLAYED A MAJOR ROLE IN THE TRADE THIS WEEK, AND BEEF PURCHASES EMPHATICALLY REFERRED TO AMOUNT OF FAT CARRIED EVEN ON LIGHTER WEIGHT CARCASSES AND CUTS. IN SOME INSTANCES, LEAN GOOD GRADE STEER PRIMAL CUTS SOLD HIGHER THAN CHOICE."

Colorado State Plans February Livestock Days

Feb. 23-26 second annual livestock days at Colorado State University, Fort Collins. The project is aimed at bringing producers and feeders latest information on beef, dairy, sheep and swine research developments. The theme this year is "New Objectives in Livestock Production."

Calendar

1952 1/2 3
19 21 23 24

Feb. 25-Mar. 8—Houston Fat Stock Show, Houston, Tex.
Mar. 12-14—Kansas Livestock Assn. meeting, Wichita.
Mar. 16-19—Western States Meat Packers Assn. convention, Los Angeles, Calif.
Mar. 22-24—New Mexico Cattle Growers Assn. meeting, Albuquerque.
Mar. 23-25—Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Assn. meeting, Dallas.
Apr. 6-7—Nat'l Institute of Animal Agriculture meeting, Lafayette, Ind.
Apr. 12-14—Animal Health Institute meeting, Washington, D. C.
May 20-23—Montana Stock Growers Assn. convention, Miles City.
May 25-27—Nat'l Watershed Congress meeting, Washington, D. C.
June 3-5—South Dakota Stock Growers Assn. meeting, Mobridge.
June 4-5—Wyoming Stock Growers Assn. meeting, Laramie.
June 8-10—North Dakota Stockmen's Assn. meeting, Bismarck.
June 11-13—Nebraska Stock Growers Assn. meeting, Lincoln.
June 25-27—National Livestock Marketing Congress, Cedar Rapids, Ia.

FEDERALLY INSP. SLAUGHTER

(In thousands)

	Cattle	Calves	Hogs	Sheep
Dec. 1958	1,437	474	5,814	1,061
Dec. 1957	1,474	569	5,523	978
Year 1958	17,642	5,673	59,461	12,397
Year 1957	19,435	7,323	60,683	13,234

(Of the cattle slaughtered during 1958, 42.5 per cent were cows and heifers; in 1957 the percentage was 46.4.)

(Canner and cutter slaughter (included in the cattle classification above) was 159,000 in December 1958 as against 270,000 in December 1957. For the year the figures were 2,122,000 in 1958; 3,266,000 in 1957.)

CHICAGO LIVESTOCK PRICES

	Jan. 29, 1959	Jan. 20, 1958
Steers, Prime	\$28.00 - 31.75	\$28.50 - 31.00
Steers, Choice	26.00 - 30.00	25.50 - 29.25
Steers, Good	24.50 - 28.00	23.00 - 26.25
Steers, Std.	23.50 - 26.50	20.00 - 23.50
Cows, Comm.	19.50 - 21.50	16.25 - 17.50
Vealers, Gd.-Ch.	34.00 - 37.00*	26.00 - 31.00
Vealers, Std.	27.00 - 34.00	20.00 - 26.00
Calves, Gd.-Ch.		20.00 - 26.00
Calves, Std.		18.00 - 20.00
F. & S. Strs., Gd.-Ch.	25.00 - 35.00	
F. & S. Strs., Cm.-Md.	24.00 - 27.50**	
Hogs (180-240#)	16.00 - 16.75	19.50 - 20.25
Lambs, Gd.-Ch.	18.00 - 19.50	22.00 - 24.25
Ewes, Gd.-Ch.	5.50 - 8.00	8.00 - 10.50

(*Gd. only)

(**Md. only)

WHOLESALE DRESSED MEAT

(Chicago)

	Jan. 27, 1959	Jan. 21, 1958
Beef, Prime	\$47.50 - 49.50	\$46.00 - 48.00
Beef, Choice	44.00 - 48.50	43.50 - 47.00
Beef, Good	43.00 - 46.00	39.50 - 43.00
Beef, Std.	42.00 - 45.00	36.50 - 41.00
Veal, Prime	59.00 - 62.00	50.00 - 53.00
Veal, Choice	54.00 - 58.00	47.00 - 50.00
Veal, Good	49.00 - 55.00	39.00 - 46.00
Lamb, Choice	34.00 - 43.00	47.00 - 52.00
Lamb, Good	32.00 - 40.00	45.50 - 48.50
Pork Loin, 8-12#	41.50 - 45.00	47.00 - 52.00

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

(Thousands of pounds)

	Dec. 1958	Nov. 1958	Dec. 1957	5-Yr. Avg.
Frozen Beef	162,478	145,566	121,713	195,035
Cured Beef	13,820	13,070	11,807	8,831
Total Pork	206,286	184,438	193,981	334,005
Lamb & Mutton	9,327	9,280	5,206	9,874

COVER PICTURE

A February picture of steers on the Ralph R. Allen & Sons ranch north of Gunnison, Colo. Photo by John E. Allen.

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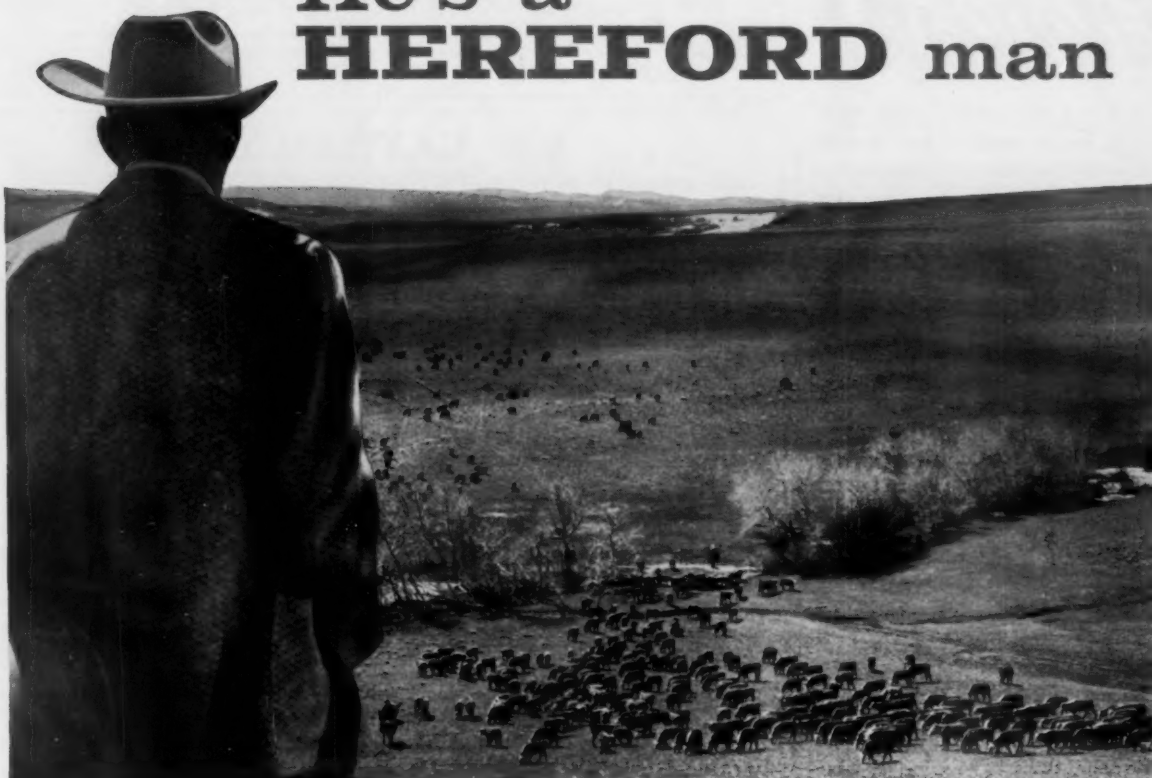
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Whiteface Bulletin

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